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Dr Rajay Rampersad, who performed lifesaving surgery on Audrey Fawole. Picture by Sitthixay Dittthavong

Five and thriving

Preschooler Audrey Fawole owes her happy, healthy life as an almost five-year-old to the work of a hospital surgeon hours after her premature birth. When she grows up she hopes to be just like the "amazing" Dr Rajay Rampersad.

REPORT: PAGE 4

'My life slipped away'

STAR'S FIGHT FOR NORMAL

SPORT: PAGES 66-67

Gutless fearmongers

COURT DECISION A CONFECTED CRISIS

JACK WATERFORD: FORUM

Davis 'pursued' junior staffer

Jasper Lindell

JOHNATHAN Davis allegedly made sexual advances towards a junior political staffer working in the ACT Legislative Assembly despite having been earlier warned by his party against inappropriate workplace relationships.

A now 19-year-old staffer in a politician's office says Mr Davis approached him via dating app Grindr, recognising him as an Assembly worker.

The man says after some "uncomfortable" conversations and having raised concerns about their age gap and common

workplace, he attempted to cut off contact by blocking Mr Davis. However, the former MLA allegedly set up new accounts in order to keep sending him unwanted messages.

Mr Davis, through a lawyer, would not comment on the allegation.

The staffer said he had come forward with his new allegations because the community had a right to know Mr Davis' inappropriate behaviour extended into the workplace.

"I understand the cost of staying silent when someone behaves inappropriately," he said.

"I question the efficacy and thorough-

ness of whatever investigatory measures have been put in place in response to awareness of allegations of Mr Davis' conduct.

"I just hope that the testimony of myself and others who come forward will empower others to do the same."

As the Greens faced ongoing scrutiny over their handling of the allegations made against Mr Davis, the latest complaints have raised issues about the workplace culture at the Assembly and whether adequate protections are in place for staff.

|| Continued Page 6

|| Forum: Inside the Greens' crisis

McBride pleads guilty

WHISTLEBLOWER TO LEARN FATE

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NEWS

The Canberra Times

VOLUME 98 | NUMBER 32,312

TIMES PAST

November 18, 1964

Former prime minister Sir Robert Menzies' previous official car found new duties, The Canberra Times reported in 1964.

The previously official government car could have been hauling bees through paddocks and along bush tracks.

The car, a 1949 Cadillac Fleetwood, was bought by a beekeeper, Stuart Young, of East Gosford. Mr Young paid £1000 for the car at a sale of used government vehicles at the Department of the Interior garage, Kingston.

It wouldn't be the first time he had used a prime minister's car to haul his bees.

About eight years earlier he'd bought the Buick which Sir Robert used before the Cadillac. The Buick had since been sold and used by the Salvation Army.

Mr Young said he bought the Cadillac because he wanted a big car. The fact it was the prime minister's car, however, would give it some prestige. Although the Cadillac would be used to tow the bees, it would primarily be used as a private car.

Visit: trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/page/11477067



Darrell Michael Hudson arrives at the ACT Supreme Court. Picture by Blake Foden

Brothel rapist behind bars

Hannah Neale

A TRADESMAN who raped a sex worker multiple times during a "degrading series of assaults" at a brothel will spend the next two-and-a-half years behind bars.

"[The rapist] used violence to do whatever he wanted to, despite the complainant's continued attempts to get him to stop," Acting Justice Peter Berman said on Friday.

In the ACT Supreme Court, Darrell Michael Hudson, 32, sobbed upon hearing he would be spending the next few years in jail.

Hudson had been rocking back and forth while sitting in the dock, and wiping away his tears with a tissue, while waiting to find out his fate.

Acting Justice Berman sentenced Hudson to a total of four years and nine months in jail, with a two-and-a-half-year non-parole

period. "It is important to recognise that sex workers are in a particularly vulnerable position," the judge said.

"Non-consensual sexual acts on sex workers are not less serious because of the nature of their job."

During a trial in April, jurors found Hudson guilty of 10 charges, including three counts of sexual intercourse without consent, committing an act of indecency without consent, and one count each of sexual assault, property damage, and choking, suffocating or strangling.

Jurors acquitted the tradesman of four further charges.

All 14 charges, which Hudson denied, stemmed from his visit to a Canberra brothel in February 2021.

In the early hours of February 26, Hudson engaged the services of a sex worker.

He purchased a "standard

package", paid for by a friend, and was informed of what was and what was not included in the service.

After engaging in some consensual acts, Hudson then repeatedly indecently assaulted the woman.

He then sat on her chest, straddling her with his knees and said: "I want to face f--- you." Acting Justice Berman on Friday said: "[Hudson] inflicted force upon [the victim] without her consent with the intention of putting his penis in her mouth. She was unable to move and therefore she was forced to acquiesce."

Hudson called the victim a "bitch", spat on her face, and slapped her.

At one point, the 32-year-old pushed down on the woman's windpipe and she briefly lost consciousness.

"Choking was yet another example of the offender exercising his dominion over

the complainant in a violent and degrading way," the judge stated.

Hudson also raped the woman multiple ways, and attempted to vaginally rape her.

"Clearly frustrated at what had happened and his inability to maintain an erection the offender made a punching motion at her face," Acting Justice Berman said. As he left the room at the brothel, Hudson punched a wall twice, leaving a hole.

On Friday, as corrective services officers escorted Hudson to the cells loud banging and yelling could be heard.

He will be eligible for release in May 2026.

Support is available for those who may be distressed. Phone Lifeline 13 11 14; beyondblue 1300 224 636; 1800-RESPECT 1800 737 732.

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CANBERRA Min 7 Max 28

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Chance of any rain: 0%

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Powerball: 16. Div 1: Jackpotted;

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Division 5: \$184.15; Division 6:

\$79.20; Division 7: \$45.15; Division

8: \$20.40; Division 9: \$12.25.

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Bargains abound as retailers cut prices early

Poppy Johnston

TWO in five retailers have already started slashing prices to entice in cautious consumers ahead of the cyber weekend sales.

The four-week discounting period kicks off next Friday, but National Retail Association director Rob Godwin says retailers are already offering deep discounts ahead of what's tipped to be a flat festive period.

"There's an awful lot of stock available and retailers are being super aggressive," Mr Godwin said.

The industry body estimated around 40 per cent of retailers had already started their discounting cycle.

"It's shaping up as very much a buyers' Christmas, with great deals already available for those who get in early," he said.

A notable 10 per cent of the entire festive season spend is expected to take place during the four-day Black Friday and Cyber Monday sales.

The discounting period, which began in the United States to coincide with the Thanksgiving holiday, has been embraced by Australian consumers.

It's now the biggest four days on the retail calendar, with discounting now spilling over into either side of the event and sales stretching over six or eight weeks.

In recent years, consumers have been taking advantage of the discounting period to get a head start on their Christmas spending, but the financial burden of higher interest rates and cost of living pressures is expected to intensify the phenomenon.



Santa helps launch the Festive Finds in the City initiative on Friday. Picture by Sithixay Dithavong

ACT outdoor dining fast-tracked

Natalie Vikhrov

CANBERRA businesses will be able to set up outdoor dining sooner after the ACT government announced it will be fast-tracking permit applications this summer.

It comes as the government launches its annual Christmas in the City campaign in a bid to boost local trade.

Minister for Business and Better Regulation Tara Cheyne told journalists on Friday that last year's Christmas in the City campaign generated a \$3 million boost for local businesses and drew in 42 per cent more people to the city in the evenings.

She said retail sales in Canberra remained "very high" but urged businesses to take advantage of holiday

consumption. As part of broader reform efforts, the ACT government announced it would be offering one-day turnaround "on simple applications" for outdoor dining permits this summer. It currently takes around 10 business days for an application to be processed. Ms Cheyne said the new scheme will make it easier for businesses to expand their trading area and "activate public spaces".

Businesses will be able to use public spaces adjacent to their premises while applications for ongoing use are considered. Susei Ko, operations manager for Okami restaurants, said staff at their Braddon site were preparing to set up their outdoor dining this week.

"I think that will definitely attract a market as people like sitting outside and [good] weather is coming up," she said.

Ms Ko said the restaurant already had an outdoor dining permit but believed the initiative would help other businesses boost patronage.

As the holiday period approaches, Access Canberra is also starting a campaign to inform businesses about the flexibility of the ACT liquor act.

"We've got a Liquor Act that is flexible, but there is a lack of awareness in the community in some of our businesses about the flexibility that it offers," Ms Cheyne.

"For example, the business can hold a private event for 30 people and serve alcohol

and they do not need to seek a permit.

"This is very important for us, especially because of the night time economy reforms that have been announced in New South Wales.

"These are great reforms, but many of them are just catching up to what we already have here."

Ms Cheyne said the government will have "a lot more to say" about the government's night time economy reforms in the coming months.

The holiday season officially kicked off in the city on Friday, with the new Festive Finds in the City Campaign to draw in shoppers.

The campaign includes a curated gift guide and offers free activities and events,

including the 'Festive Lane Market', which will run from Friday to Sunday.

A giant 16-meter Christmas tree donned with bangles and other decorations has also been erected for the holiday season. Ms Cheyne encouraged Canberrans to shop local.

"Canberrans are fantastic at coming together to help each other. Shopping locally plays an important role in boosting our economy, especially over the Christmas and new year period," she said.

"There is plenty for people of all ages to enjoy, including all the decorations of a traditional Christmas.

"From 1 December more decorations, activities and entertainment will be added to the program."

See inside for
16 pages of amazing

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HEALTH Born at 29 weeks, two rare lifesaving surgeries helped Audrey Fawole survive and thrive

Audrey celebrates with 'hero' surgeon

Megan Doherty

LYONS preschooler Audrey Fawole was just three hours old and weighed 1.3 kilograms when she had life-saving surgery at the Canberra Hospital in 2018 to separate and repair an abnormal join between her oesophagus and trachea, otherwise known as a tracheoesophageal fistula.

At 20 days and weighing 100 grams more, she had more surgery, this time a groundbreaking procedure, the first of its kind in Canberra, in which keyhole surgery was used on her tiny body to correct a duodenal atresia, or gap in her small intestine.

Born premature at 29 weeks, without either surgery, she would have died.

Both operations were performed at the Canberra Hospital by Dr Rajay Rampersad, a paediatric surgeon at Canberra Health Services.

With Audrey's fifth birthday next week, the little girl, a fan of *Paw Patrol* and *Barbie*, returned to the hospital yesterday to celebrate her continued good health with her hero surgeon.

Audrey reckoned Dr Rampersad was "amazing".

And what does she want to be when she grows up? "A doctor and a nurse," she reckoned.

For Dr Rampersad, himself a father of four children with a fifth on the way, seeing Audrey not only surviving but thriving was deeply rewarding.

"I'm very happy to see that," he said. "She had a rocky course, she had to have more operations than most prem babies but she's done very well."

Dr Rampersad said it was also uplifting for the whole team that helped Audrey to get through - including staff in the Neonatal Intensive

Care Unit and the anaesthetist who had to be so precise as Audrey underwent surgery when just half the size of the average newborn.

Audrey's mum Rowena is a nurse at the North Canberra Hospital while dad Jide is an emergency department staff specialist at Canberra Hospital.

But nothing could prepare them for the shock and terror of their daughter being born at just 29 weeks on November 23, 2018 at the Canberra Hospital.

She had been due to be born in February of the following year but that day in November Rowena noticed the baby was not moving as

much and went in to the hospital to get checked. "I went to work that day and had her that night," Rowena said.

The duodenal atresia, a condition that stopped liquids and food from passing through her stomach into the rest of her intestine, had been diagnosed before Audrey was born. To fix that

Ahead of her fifth birthday next week, Audrey Fawole, above, returned to Canberra Hospital yesterday to thank her lifesaving surgeon Dr Rajay Rampersad. She was born premature at 29 weeks, left, seen also holding her father Jide's finger. Main picture by Sitthixay Dittthavong

condition, Dr Rampersad performed groundbreaking laparoscopic surgery on Audrey when she was 20 days old, making her one of the tiniest babies to undergo such a procedure.

He said it was a complex, delicate procedure, the first of its kind in Canberra, but the keyhole surgery meant she was left with tiny nicks on her body rather than major scars across her torso.

"We have in paediatric surgery, four surgeons with the ability to treat complex and difficult conditions in Canberra," he said.

"We often have patients travelling to Sydney in the belief they will get better

care, when the same care or sometimes better exists locally in Canberra."

Rowena said Audrey was fed with a tube for the first year of her life but now "eats anything and everything". While her health would be checked regularly, Audrey had no ongoing issues.

"She's fine, she's reached all her milestones, she's taller than average," Rowena said. "She loves any music she can dance to. She's very social. She's the kid at preschool everyone wants to be friends with."

Rowena said the family owed everything to Dr Rampersad. "You saved her life," she said to him.



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A.C.T. POLITICS Ex-Greens MLA accused of using dating apps to contact then 18-year-old

Davis 'pursued' junior Assembly staffer

From Page 1

The Greens have faced heavy scrutiny over their handling of the complaints against Mr Davis, which included that he had sex with a minor and an inappropriate relationship with a 17-year-old. The party will face an independent inquiry into its decisions between when the allegations were first raised in late October and when they were taken to police last Friday.

Mr Davis resigned his Brindabella seat late on Sunday night.

Responding to the fresh allegations that Mr Davis's conduct affected junior staff in the workplace, Greens leader Shane Rattenbury's spokeswoman defended the party's complaints process but said stronger protections may be needed.

"The Jenkins review at Federal Parliament and the Broderick review in NSW Parliament have both demonstrated the risks to staff that arise in a parliamentary setting," she said.

The staffer, who does not work for the Greens and came forward to *The Canberra Times*, said he did not want a formal complaint but was making his allegations public to show other young people were not alone in receiving unwanted sexual advances from Mr Davis.

The staffer, now 19, said Mr Davis, 31, was well beyond the age preference range he set on his profile on Grindr, a gay dating app.

"Mr Davis recognised me from my profile as a staffer in his building and boasted that he knew that I worked in the Assembly with him. In hindsight, I regret engaging with him at all on this app, but I admit that I only answered his messages out of curiosity and for the

entertainment of having a politician message me," the staffer said in a written account of their interactions.

"At first, our conversations were casual and platonic, with no sexual aspect or flirtation, so I was happy enough to chat to him; he would often speak in detail about his work and daily schedule, communicating with me solely through the app."

The staffer said the conversations became uncomfortable when Mr Davis began to express a sexual interest in the staffer.

Mr Rattenbury on Monday revealed Mr Davis had been counselled by the party "a couple of years ago" about a relationship that was "not appropriate" with

a staffer who worked in the Legislative Assembly.

Mr Rattenbury indicated this was the only previous allegation of misconduct levelled at Mr Davis, before allegations were brought to his office's attention last week.

A code of conduct governing Legislative Assembly members' behaviour says in all dealing with staff they must "extend professional courtesy and respect" and "act consistently with accepted workplace conduct standards".

The staffer said he expressed concern to Mr Davis in their app-based chats that their conversation was inappropriate "given our approximately 12-year age difference and com-

mon workplace. Mr Davis insisted that it wasn't an issue; he rarely took no for an answer".

The staffer said he had no sexual interest in Mr Davis but felt compelled to keep talking with him.

"I became really uncomfortable with these conversations and soon blocked him on the app. Mr Davis then made a new account and messaged me repeatedly on numerous days despite being consistently ignored. He would even ask me about blocking him. I felt pressured to justify my choice to distance myself from Mr Davis. I blocked him once again," he said.

The staffer, who provided screenshots of conversations with Mr Davis on Grindr to

The Canberra Times, said after blocking the politician, interactions at the Legislative Assembly became uncomfortable.

"I walked into work and dreaded seeing him. I was grossly reminded of the image of his naked body whenever I passed him in corridors; I anticipated his awkward flirting whenever he approached me at work events, [and] when he approached other young male staffers at work events," he said.

Mr Rattenbury on Wednesday said the party had been contacted by a separate person wanting to provide information about Mr Davis. The party would not receive that information directly, he said.

A spokeswoman for Mr Rattenbury said the party was aware of more people coming forward who have information they wanted to share.

"It's important that they feel safe and supported to do so," she said.

"To that end, we're working with expert stakeholders and others in the Assembly to set up the best possible pathway for people to come forward ... we're also working to get the independent inquiry into this matter up and running."

A spokesperson for Assembly speaker Joy Burch said the administration and procedure committee had agreed to an independent review into the handling of allegations against Mr Davis.



Former Greens MLA Johnathan Davis, who resigned from the Legislative Assembly late on Sunday. Picture by Siththixay Diththavong

Husband accused of murdering wife set to plead guilty

Hannah Neale

A MAN accused of fatally suffocating his wife of 69 years has indicated he will plead guilty to murder.

Donald Morley, 92, faced the ACT Magistrates Court via audio-visual link on Friday.

Morley allegedly killed his wife, Jean Morley, also aged 92, whom he described as "my angel".

Legal Aid lawyer, Nathan Deakes, told the court Morley intended to plead guilty to a single charge of murder.

However, he is yet to officially enter a plea.

It is believed Morley is the oldest person to be charged with murder in the ACT.

The deceased woman, who had dementia, was found in July at a Fisher home where the couple had lived for more than 45 years.

"I have done a terrible thing," Morley allegedly told a registered nurse who discovered Mrs Morley.

"I suffocated her with a pillow last night."

Morley allegedly said he had killed his wife about

Sorry to upset all our family and friends this wasn't easy for me, especially my darling.

Donald Morley allegedly said in a note

9pm the night before.

He also told the nurse, who visited the resident twice weekly to tend to the man, he had tried to kill himself in multiple ways.

In what police believe to be a suicide note, Morley allegedly claimed that "after 69

years married, we were both afraid of the future".

"Please don't call this 'murder-suicide,' he allegedly said in the note.

"Sorry to upset all our family and friends this wasn't easy for me, especially my darling."

Morley has been in custody since his arrest on July 31, and spent a period of time in hospital under police guard.

He had also been housed at North Canberra Hospital's older persons mental health unit.

The court previously heard Morley does not have any children or family with which to stay.

While the man previously applied for bail and a magistrate indicated she would consider granting it if safe housing was found for the 92-year-old, Morley with-

drew his application.

The case is next set to go to the ACT Supreme Court, where Morley is expected to be arraigned and enter a plea of guilty.

Neighbours of Mrs Morley have remembered her as lovely Yorkshire woman, who was outspoken at times.

Others had not seen her for more than a year.

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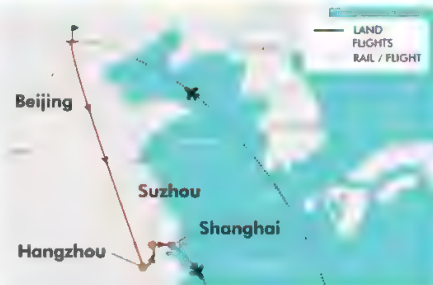
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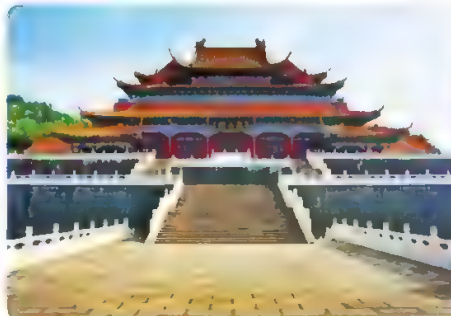
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EDUCATION Students in ACT, NSW, Victoria most impacted

COVID lockdowns hurt high schoolers

Natalie Vikhrov

TWO-THIRDS of year 10 students in the ACT and other states with lengthy COVID school shutdowns say their studies have suffered due to the pandemic, a new survey shows.

The Australian National University, with the Australian Council for Educational Research and the Social Research Centre, surveyed more than 18,000 year 10 students from 300 high schools in what has been touted as "the largest longitudinal study of its kind".

The first survey of the 10-year study asked students about a range of topics, including their career ambitions, personal relationships and the impact of the pandemic on their learning.

It found 66 per cent of students in the ACT, NSW and Victoria, which had long school closures, felt their progress had suffered, compared to 43 per cent of students in states and territories where educational facilities were shut for fewer days.

Only 39 per cent of students from states with high levels of school closures said

We have a major cohort of young students ... we need to make sure are supported to catch up in the vital learning and opportunities they missed during the pandemic.

ANU researcher Ben Edwards

they felt prepared for the 2022 school year, compared to 48 per cent of students from states with less closures.

Students from the ACT, NSW and Victoria were also less likely to have caught up

on their learning, compared to other states with fewer school shutdowns and were more likely to have fallen behind on their studies.

"Clearly we have a major cohort of young students,

who are now coming to the end of their high school education, that we need to make sure are supported to catch up in the vital learning and opportunities they missed during the pandemic," said Ben Edwards, a lead researcher from ANU.

Prof Edwards said the situation was "particularly acute" for students with disabilities from jurisdictions with long school shutdowns, who reported falling behind in their education at higher rates compared to their peers without a disability.

Asked about career ambi-

tions, more than 18 per cent of students wanted to work in health, closely followed by jobs in design, engineering, science and transport.

When broken down by gender, findings showed female students were far more likely (25.39 per cent) to strive for a career in health than their male (10.81 per cent) and non-binary counterparts (9.37 per cent).

At the same time, male and non-binary students were far more likely to favour a career in the fields of design, engineering, science and transport.

Charges laid nearly two years after Tasmanian school jumping castle tragedy

Ethan James

WORKPLACE safety charges have been laid in relation to a Tasmanian primary school jumping castle tragedy that killed six students.

Chace Harrison, Jalailah Jayne-Maree Jones, Zane Mellor, Addison Stewart, Jye Sheehan and Peter Dodi

died after the incident at Hillcrest Primary School on December 16, 2021.

Tasmania's workplace safety regulator on Friday said the Director of Public Prosecutions had filed a complaint in the Devonport Magistrates Court.

"The DPP has charged Taz-Zorb, the operator of

the jumping castle, with a category two offence under the Work Health and Safety Act 2012," WorkSafe Tasmania said.

It is alleged Taz-Zorb failed to comply with a health and safety duty in a way that exposed the children to a risk of death or serious injury.

"This decision comes after a significant investigation undertaken by WorkSafe Tasmania staff which involved many months of work," the regulator said.

"A large number of documents have been prepared and considered by the investigators and the DPP in order to reach this deci-

sion. As the matter is now before the court, no further information or comment can be provided."

WorkSafe Tasmania head Robyn Pearce said she had met with the families involved throughout the year.

Several children were also seriously injured in the incident in which a jumping

castle being used during end-of-year celebrations became airborne. A ceremony was held last December in Devonport to mark the one-year anniversary. "We continue to keep the children, their families and their loved ones in our hearts," Tasmania Premier Jeremy Rockliff said at the time.



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Diplomat on hunger strike hospitalised

Kat Wong, Alex Mitchell

A FORMER high-level Australian diplomat has been taken to hospital two weeks after embarking on a hunger strike outside parliament.

Gregory Andrews started his protest in early November and vowed not to eat any food until Prime Minister Anthony Albanese "gets serious" and takes climate action.

But on the 16th day of his hunger strike, he reported feeling chest pains and shortness of breath before two nurses from Parliament House called an ambulance.

Mr Andrews was able to walk to the vehicle and entered with minimal assistance. In a blog post published a few hours before he was taken to hospital, Mr Andrews recorded his symptoms in detail.

"I'm losing my stability and finding it hard to breathe. My limbs and chest are aching all the time," he wrote.

"The Parliament House nurse who has been visiting me says that's because my body is starting to eat itself.

"I'm still doing my best but I'm not sure how long my 55-year-old body will hold out."

Mr Andrews has lost 10kg since the start of his hunger strike and prior to the ambulance call had indicated he would continue.

"I'm still determined to go for as long as my body allows

or PM Anthony Albanese takes responsibility and commits to real action on climate change," he wrote.

The former diplomat worked with the government for more than 30 years, including as an ambassador to West Africa, threatened species commissioner and Australia's deputy chief cli-

mate negotiator at the United Nations.

Mr Andrews had planned to protest until at least December 13 in the hope Australia will ramp up its climate actions before the UN's COP 28 talks in Dubai.

Since beginning his strike, various politicians from the crossbench have paid a visit.

Greens senator David Shoebridge, independent senator David Pocock and independent MP Sophie Scamps have all met with Mr Andrews. But his main targets have been silent.

"I still haven't heard anything from the prime minister or his office. He seems to be ghosting me. And Peter

Dutton is missing in action," Mr Andrews wrote.

In his petition to Mr Albanese, the former diplomat called on the government to stop subsidising fossil fuels, commit to an urgent phase-out of coal and gas exports, end native forest logging, update environment protection laws and release key details of Australia's Climate Risk Assessment.

The Greens are expected to push through a Senate motion that echoes these calls.

"Climate change is no longer a future emergency," Mr Andrews' petition states. The world is entering climate collapse and Australia needs to act." The petition has received more than 4500 signatures so far. Dr Scamps said she was concerned about Mr Andrews' health and wished him a swift recovery.

"Climate change is an enormous challenge facing all of us," she said. "As I said to Mr Gregory, while I understand his desperation over the issue, there are more constructive ways to influence governments and industry than endangering his health."



Paramedics have taken former diplomat Gregory Andrews to hospital on day 16 of his hunger strike. Picture AAP



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SHOPPING New national supermarket move welcomed

Sensory overload: Extra 'Quiet Hours'

Charmaine Manuel

NEURODIVERGENT advocates have welcomed Coles' decision to expand its Quiet Hour shopping experience to all of its national stores to help people who experience sensory overload.

The Quiet Hour, which has reduced lighting and noise for 60 minutes, has been trialled successfully at some stores, Coles said.

Now all its supermarkets nationally will have reduced sound from Monday to Friday, 6-7pm.

Sensory Processing Disorder (SPD) Australia founder Tracey Butler welcomed the expansion saying it was "massively significant".

Sensory overload is overstimulation in environments that have a lot of noise and light, Ms Butler said.

Supermarkets with their noise, bright fluorescent lighting and people in a confined space were a prime stress spot for people who have sensory challenges, Ms Butler said.

Shopping is a necessity but it was "extremely stressful" for parents with children who experience sensory overload, she said.

Ms Butler started learning about sensory processing after realising that her son had challenges in environments that were busy or noisy.

People might presume that badly behaved children

They feel like there's 20 people all talking to them at once or demanding their attention at once.

Sensory Processing Disorder Australia's Tracey Butler

are a result of poor parenting but is "an underlying neurological condition," she said.

In an environment such as a supermarket, the auditory system is bombarded with sounds, Ms Butler said.

"And the brain doesn't know or becomes confused at which stimulus to respond to," she said. "They feel like there's 20 people all talking to them at once or demanding their attention at once."

That overstimulation can sometimes result in poor behaviour.

"The child that's screaming on the floor in the supermarket is more than likely a child that's got sensory processing challenges. Taking a child who's got sensory challenges to a supermarket is extremely difficult," she said.

"I commend Coles on providing the opportunity

for a friendlier environment for those individuals that have got these sensory processing issues."

Coles said that it would implement the following changes to create low sensory environment during Quiet Hour:

- Store lighting will be reduced on a Tuesday in participating stores.
- Coles Radio will be turned down.
- Register and scanner volumes will be reduced to the lowest level.
- No PA announcements will be made except in the case of emergencies.
- Additional team members will be available to support customers.

Lighting will be reduced in selected stores nationally on Tuesday's from 10:30am to 11:30am.

CBD and resort stores will offer Quiet Hour Monday to Friday, from 10:30am to 11:30am instead of the evenings. Woolworths also offers Quiet Hour at some of its stores. Ms Butler said the changes would be "highly beneficial."

Ms Butler said on some level most people have some kind of sensory challenge that they haven't labelled and so a lot of people would benefit from sensory environments.

Coles' website lists times for Quiet Hour experiences at all its stores.



Four face court on drug and gun charges

Louise Throver

THREE brothers and a woman have been granted bail over alleged firearm and drug offences, following a vehicle stop in Goulburn.

Police alleged in court that they found a dismantled shotgun, ammunition and prohibited drugs across two separate cars stopped in Lagoon Street on Thursday, November 16.

They arrested a 35-year-old woman and three men aged 28, 31 and 33, who were taken to Goulburn Police Station.

The three men appeared in court via AVL. In Goulburn Local Court on Friday, November 17, 31-year-old Robert John Hingaia, of Nords Wharf, faced two charges of supplying a prohibited drug (greater than indictable and less than commercial quantity); and one count each of use, supply stolen firearm or firearm part; and possessing ammunition without holding a licence/permit or authority.

Magistrate David Williams told the court that police alleged there were 48 MDMA tablets and seven grams of cocaine in the vehicle in which he was travelling. He said it was not suggested that Hingaia had a firearm but allegedly "ammunition and parts of a firearm."

Solicitor Matt Adam said his client had never spent time in custody and suffered from PTSD and depression, for which he had been prescribed medication and medicinal cannabis.

"He was a passenger in the vehicle when it was stopped and there may be a question in relation to the substance," he said.

He requested bail, arguing that the matter was likely to be "before the court for some time".

Police prosecutor, Sergeant Harris, opposed this, saying the MDMA tablets were "close to a commercial quantity," there was a risk of further offence and the community's protection "must come first."

However Magistrate Williams said he was satisfied that bail conditions would mitigate any risks.

Warm weather set to give way to showers

Kerem Doruk

SUNNY conditions are promising to continue the pleasant spell of weather into the weekend but a trough moving inland is forecast to bring showers to the Bush Capital.

A mostly sunny 29 degrees is forecast for Saturday with a minimum of 7.

Sunday is expected to follow suit with a partly cloudy maximum of 28 and a minimum of 9.

From Sunday onwards a "lengthy period of unsettled weather conditions" will make its way into the capital and potentially trigger showers and storms

in the region, the Bureau of Meteorology said.

"We'll have a slow-moving trough moving into the region and that's going to trigger showers and possible thunderstorms," meteorologist Jake Phillips said.

Despite the wet weather conditions forecast, temperatures will remain warm. There's an 80 per cent chance of showers on Monday.

A maximum of 26 is forecast on Tuesday, with a high chance of showers. A maximum of 22 is forecast on Tuesday with showers. Rainfall is expected to ease Thursday. The mean maximum temperature for

November is 25.4, significantly higher than last year's 20.7 degrees for the month.

For December to February the Bureau's long-range forecast shows rainfall is likely to be drier than average for large areas of the country, and warmer than average days and nights for almost all of Australia.

This long-range forecast reflects the influence of several climate drivers favouring warmer, drier conditions including El Nino, a positive Indian Ocean Dipole and warm waters in the central and eastern waters of the Pacific Ocean.

Rainfall for October was well below average. Total

Canberra's blue skies could be replaced by showers early next week. Picture by Sitthixay Ditthavong

rainfall for Canberra during October was 32.6mm, which was 58 per cent of the long-term October average of 55.9mm. The Bureau said there was an 80 per cent chance of maximum temperatures from December to February being higher than last year in the ACT and for much of NSW.

"December to February maximum and minimum temperatures are very likely to be above average for almost all of Australia," the Bureau said.

"Unusually high temperatures equate to the warmest 20 per cent of November to January periods from 1981 to 2018."

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NEWS

BUSINESS Optus has so far paid out \$36,000 to affected customers

'Don't like to use word compensation'

Adrian Rollins

Economics correspondent

EMBATTLED Optus boss Kelly Bayer Rosmarin has pushed back against calls for compensation for individuals and businesses who suffered losses as a result of last week's massive outage.

The Optus chief executive told a Senate inquiry that the carrier had so far provided \$36,000 in assistance to those impacted by the breakdown and had received requests from 8500 customers worth around \$430,000.

But Ms Bayer Rosmarin refused to specify how much it might provide, saying "I don't want to make any commitments on how much we're going to pay".

The carrier boss objected to describing such payments and its offer of 200Gb of data to subscribers as compensation.

"I don't like to use the word compensation," she said. "What we're doing is assessing this specific scenario ... and trying to do the right thing by the customer, who we want to have a long-term relationship with us."

The Optus head said part of the terms of service was an acknowledgement that outages can occur.

"We're providing our coverage on a best endeavours basis," she said. "We recognize that outages can occur. We work very hard to make sure that they don't, but they are provided on a best endeavours basis."

Pressed on the harm caused for thousands of customers, including businesses like cafes and service stations unable to process transactions, Ms Bayer Rosmarin acknowledged the inconvenience caused but said the question of com-

pensation had far reaching implications.

"There is no precedent for telcos or other essential providers covering consequential loss," she said. "We are very conscious that this would have far reaching implications not just for Optus, but not just for all telcos including the NBN, [but] also for other essential services, utilities, government services, and that this needs to be a much broader conversation than us unilaterally determining how to go about that."

Earlier, the inquiry was told that hundreds of triple zero calls did not go through on the day of the outage.

Ms Bayer Rosmarin told a Senate hearing that while most Optus customers were

able to access the triple zero service, 228 triple zero calls "were unable to go through" during the breakdown.

The communications CEO said the company was still investigating why the connection to the triple zero service failed for some of its customers, adding it did not manage the system.

"We absolutely believe that the triple zero system should have worked and it's critical for all Australians that that system can be relied upon," she said.

Under fierce questioning from senators, Ms Bayer Rosmarin defended her company's handling of last Wednesday's massive outage which affected more than 10 million customers, including the information

it provided to the public during the breakdown.

The Optus CEO has been heavily criticised for not appearing publicly during the early stages of the crisis, leaving Communications Minister Michelle Rowland to hold a series of media engagements with limited information.

While admitting that the telco could have "done some things better", Ms Bayer Rosmarin told a Senate hearing that her priority during the initial stages of the outage was to oversee the crisis response and ensure all resources were directed to restoring services.

She told the hearing the decision was made to delegate the task of informing the public to the

communications team until it was determined that the outage was not as a result of a cyber attack.

"I wanted to ensure that, before I spoke, and given how little information we had about the cause and potential restoration time, that we could at least rule out the possibility of malicious activity to reassure our customers and the nation," Ms Bayer Rosmarin said.

"As soon as our cyber specialists ... ruled this out, I began publicly fronting the issue."

"I fully appreciate how frustrating it was for all our customers, not to know what the issue was or when it would be resolved."

"But that's not because we were withholding communi-

cating. We ourselves did not know what the issue was and when it would be restored."

Optus managing director of networks, Lambo Kanagaratnam, told the hearing that by 10.20am the technical team was "pretty confident" the breakdown had not been caused by a cyber attack.

Subsequently, the company has said the outage was caused after an upgrade on the Intel international peering network triggered its 90 Cisco routers to hit a failsafe mechanism and shutdown.

Mr Kanagaratnam said the telco had "multiple layers of redundancy" in its systems but the breakdown that occurred was unprecedented.

"Our defense mechanism did not work as it should."



Optus CEO Kelly Bayer Rosmarin during Friday's inquiry at Parliament House. Picture AAP

Former detainees face tough penalties under new laws

Tess Ikononou, Andrew Brown, Kat Wong

LONG-TERM immigration detainees, including criminals, freed into the community following a landmark High Court ruling face mandatory jail stints and ankle monitoring bracelets under tough new laws.

Emergency legislation to change visa rules passed Federal Parliament Thursday night after the government rushed to introduce new protections amid community safety concerns.

But chief executive of the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre Kon Karapanagiotidis warned the laws could be discriminatory and undermine the independence of the High Court.

Although some murderers and rapists were among the 84 asylum seekers released, they have completed sentences for their crimes in correctional facilities.

But instead of being freed into the community after serving their time, they were placed into indefinite immigration detention,

which the court last week deemed unlawful.

Mandatory electronic monitoring and curfews, in addition to mandatory minimum jail terms for people who breach their conditions, are among the six amendments agreed to by the government. Some former detainees will also be barred from being within 150 metres of a school or daycare centre, while no-contact conditions can be placed on the visas of those who have been convicted of sexual assault or violence offences.

Mr Karapanagiotidis called the laws "draconian, unjust and discriminatory".

"These men have served their time, some of them for offences that are not serious in nature, or that were done when they were young people more than a decade ago," he said on Friday.

"(The laws) undermine judicial independence, it leads to unjust outcomes which can be discriminatory in nature. And that's what they've just done, discriminate against people based on their citizenship status, and how

they came to this country."

Labor struck a deal with the opposition on Thursday, agreeing to amendments to secure the support it needed to clear the legislation.

Immigration Minister Andrew Giles said the safety of the community remained the highest priority.

"From the moment the High Court handed down its decision we have been implementing measures to keep the community safe," he told Parliament.

Asked about the cost of ankle monitoring, Education

Minister Jason Clare said the measures were about ensuring Australians' safety.

"This is not about money, this is about safety," he told Seven's *Sunrise* on Friday.

"The fact is, if these people were locked up in prison, it would cost five times as much."

"If we had our way, these people would still be locked up but that's not an option."

Mr Clare said he had never seen the Parliament respond so quickly to a High Court decision.

■ Pope's view: Page 53

Samurai sword attacker spared jail

Maeve Bannister

A REALTOR who attacked a woman with a samurai sword and repeatedly punched another while high on a cocktail of drugs and alcohol has been spared time behind bars.

Sydney realtor Karl Adon Howard was on Friday sentenced to a 27-month intensive corrections order, which he will serve in the community.

Judge Antony Townsend placed strict conditions on Howard including that he stay off alcohol and drugs, undergo supervision and complete a domestic violence program.

He must also perform 250 hours of community service.

In December 2022, Judge Townsend found Howard not guilty of two counts of grievous bodily harm with intent to murder.

The 46-year-old had earlier pleaded guilty to lesser charges of recklessly causing grievous bodily harm and assault. The two women, then aged 27 and 29, were at Howard's Annandale home in February 2021 for an informal gathering where they were drinking and watching television. Howard forcibly kissed and choked one woman before punching her in the head four times after taking a cocktail of Viagra, cocaine and valium. He struck the other woman with a samurai sword after she attempted to intervene, leaving her with a deep cut to her arm.

Defence barrister Matthew Johnston SC on Friday urged the judge not to impose more jail time given Howard had already spent time behind bars, in rehabilitation and on strict bail.

"(Howard has) continued to improve and engage, but we accept there is more work to be done," he said. "Obviously there is a need for ongoing supervision in relation to drug and alcohol use."

The former principal of Ray White Balmain had made a reparation payment of \$225,000 to one of the victims, Parramatta District Court heard. Howard was arrested in February 2021 and remained in custody until he was granted bail almost a year later. He also spent 80 days as an inpatient while undergoing treatment for drug and alcohol addiction.

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David McBride leaves court on Friday after pleading guilty. Picture by Hannah Neale

'My duty': McBride pleads guilty

Hannah Neale

A MILITARY whistleblower has pleaded guilty to leaking classified defence documents, and is set to learn his fate next year.

David William McBride pleaded guilty in the ACT Supreme Court on Friday to three charges.

The charges relate to the theft and disclosure to journalists of classified documents, which detailed alleged misconduct by Australian troops in Afghanistan. A later inquiry uncovered credible information of 23 incidents of potential war crimes, which involved the killing of 39 Afghans and cruel treatment of two more between 2005 and 2016.

The report found 25 soldiers

were perpetrators or accessories - some on a single occasion and some on multiple.

McBride was scheduled to face a jury trial on Monday but it has now been vacated.

Speaking to supporters and media outside of court on Friday, McBride said: "I stand tall and I believe I did my duty."

One of McBride's lawyers, Mark Davis, also addressed the crowd, saying recent orders had made it "impossible for us to realistically go to trial".

"An extra burden today was that, the crown, the government was given authority to bundle up evidence and run out the back door with it," Mr Davis said.

"That was a fatal blow in

conjunction with the decision that was made a few days ago that limits what we can say to the jury on David's behalf."

The case took a turn on Thursday when Justice David Mossop said he would not direct jurors that an oath of allegiance to the sovereign, sworn by McBride as a member of the military, meant his duty extended to acting in the Australian public interest even when in contravention of a lawful order.

The court had heard two days of legal argument about whether this oath gave rise to a duty for McBride to act and leak the documents.

Lawyers for McBride attempted to lodge an appeal of this decision, but it was refused.

Stephen Odgers SC had said the issue of duty had "real significance" for the defence case.

On Friday, Justice Mossop ordered that a series of classified documents key to the defence case could not be used as evidence in the upcoming trial.

The court was closed to the public and to journalists for several hours while this was debated.

However, in open court, Andrew Berger KC, lawyer for the attorney-general, said the classified information "originates from or discloses the position of one or more of Australia's military partners".

"[The documents] could, if disclosed, cause significant prejudice with the foreign

partner to which it originated ... as well as foreign partners in general," he told the court.

"The public interest in preserving the confidentiality significantly outweighs the public interest in being used as evidence in these proceedings."

On Friday, McBride entered pleas of guilty to one count of dishonestly appropriating property, and two counts of communicating documents relating to naval, military, or air force information to other persons not in the course of official duty.

The judge ordered a report to assess McBride's suitability for an intensive correction order. The case was adjourned to later this month, and is set to go to sentencing next year.

'Heroic' fire killed by falling tree was a veteran

Peter Bodkin

A VOLUNTEER firefighter killed by a falling tree was a veteran whose brigade had recently travelled hundreds of kilometres to help battle a northern NSW blaze.

Leo Fransen's crew from Diamond Beach, on the mid-North Coast, was on its first day of a three-day deployment to fight the major fire when he was struck on Thursday.

NSW Rural Fire Service commissioner Rob Rogers said the falling tree hit the

It is a tight, family-type unit, the RFS, and these things are incredibly difficult for everybody involved.

NSW Rural Fire Service commissioner Rob Rogers

brigade leader "very, very hard" and he died, despite the first-aid efforts of other volunteers and paramedics.

Mr Fransen, 75, was a 13-year veteran of his local brigade who had recently been made captain and he leaves behind a wife, two

children and a large extended family.

"This obviously is a significant impact to not only his family but to the RFS itself," Mr Rogers said on Friday.

"It is a tight, family-type unit, the RFS, and these things are incredibly difficult

for everybody involved and we will obviously be continuing to support (his family) as best we can."

The 21,456ha Hudson Fire at Glengarry, near Walgett in north-western NSW, has been burning since Sunday, when the RFS believes it was sparked by a lightning strike.

Since then it has destroyed six buildings and on Wednesday it triggered an emergency warning, although by Thursday it was being brought under control.

NSW Emergency Services Minister Jihad Dib said Mr

Fransen's tragic death was a reminder of the dangers firefighters exposed themselves to during what shaped as a "very difficult" bushfire season. "The 70,000 volunteers that give up their time to protect our communities are absolutely heroic and this is the worst news that you can imagine that reverberates through the organisation at this time," he said.

There were 30 bush and grass fires burning across NSW Friday afternoon, including three that were out of control.

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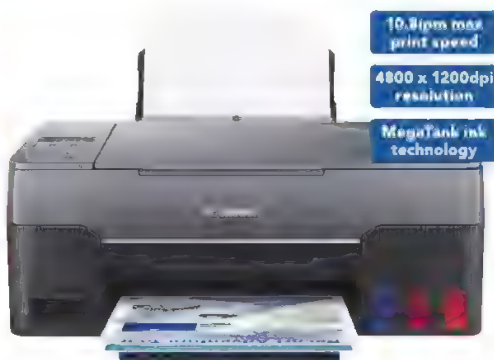
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'Vibrant' Lilie James celebrated and farewelled in Sydney

Sam McKeith, Duncan Murray

HUNDREDS of mourners have gathered to celebrate the life of young water polo coach Lilie James, who was brutally killed at the Sydney school where she worked.

Friends and family mem-

bers, many dressed in brightly coloured clothes in the 21-year-old's honour, gathered at her former school to remember the vivacious woman on Friday.

Premier Chris Minns was among those who attended the service at Danebank Anglican School for Girls in

Hurstville, which was also live-streamed for a crowd gathered inside St Andrew's Cathedral in the city centre.

Her white casket, adorned with flowers, was carried into the service by pallbearers who included her father.

Mr James said the day was about celebrating his

daughter's life. "She was an independent, vibrant young woman who was always on the go and lived each day to the fullest," he said in a statement.

St Andrew's Cathedral School said the service allowed people to reflect on the extraordinary young woman

she was and the profound impact she had on students and colleagues at the school where she coached. "The James family will remain in our prayers, with Lilie in our hearts forever," the school said in a social media post.

Ms James was found dead with horrific head injuries

in the inner-city private school's gymnasium toilets just before midnight on October 25. A day later, police found the body of her suspected killer, 24-year-old Paul Thijssen.

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SHOT ON DUTY No indication officers were entering high-risk situation

Police in shock after officer killed

AN OFFICER has died after being shot during a violent confrontation in a "devastating and tragic" day for South Australia Police.

Brevet Sergeant Jason Doig and colleagues Michael Hutchinson and Rebekah Cass went to a property in rural Senior near the Victorian border about 11.20pm on Thursday to investigate an incident involving the use of a firearm and an animal.

They were confronted by an armed man and Sgt Doig, 53, was shot.

His colleagues and paramedics attempted to save the police force member of 34 years but he died at the scene.

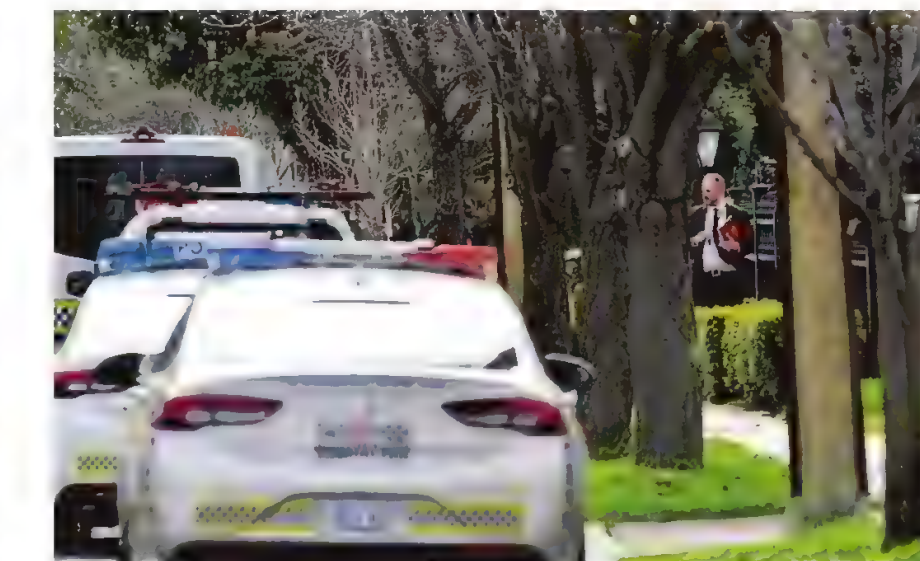
Sgt Hutchinson, 59, was also shot and taken to Adelaide for treatment. Constable Cass, 31, was uninjured.

The male suspect, 26, was shot by police and sustained serious life-threatening injuries.

He was treated onsite before being flown to an Adelaide hospital where he remains under police guard.

"This is a devastating day for South Australian Police," Commissioner Grant Stevens told reporters on Friday.

"This is a tragic event that will have wide-ranging effects not just for police but people who rely on police for the safety and security they



A South Australian police officer is dead after a shooting near the state's border with Victoria. Picture AAP

enjoy in our community."

Mr Stevens said there was no indication the officers were going into a high-risk situation.

The full circumstances of the incident will be the focus of a commissioner's inquiry, with investigators still at the scene on Friday.

The policing family is "in shock, in pain and in grief" after losing a brother, the Police Association of South Australia said.

"Today, the collective heart of the nation's police is broken and, right now, it feels broken beyond repair," president Mark Carroll said.

"This horror is what all of us in policing live in fear of - it is our dread, that one of us or one of our workmates has his or her life taken.

"I make crystal clear our intention, as police and as a union, not to allow Jason or his family to be cheated of a scintilla of the justice they're

determined to be owed."

Mr Stevens said officer safety was paramount and police are provided with the right tools, equipment and training to do their job as safely as possible.

"But you cannot get past the reality that police are often involved in dealing with violent offenders," he said.

Sgt Doig was officer in charge of Lucindale Police Station - a "highly respected" career officer who had served

in the force since 1989.

The last SA police officer killed on duty was Snr Const Bogdan Sobczak, a motorcycle officer who died in a road crash in 2002.

Police Minister Joe Szakacs said Sgt Doig had lost his life through a "heinous act of violence".

"This is tragic and shocking," he posted on X. Premier Peter Malinauskas said he has been briefed about the "terrible news".

Wilkinson's legal spat with Ten to be heard 'promptly'

TV star Lisa Wilkinson's legal bid to have Network Ten pay a six-figure legal bill up-front will be heard "promptly" as she battles a defamation case launched by ex-Liberal staffer Bruce Lehrmann.

His claim relates to a 2021 interview that Wilkinson - then a co-host of current affairs program The Project - did with former political staffer Brittany Higgins airing her claims that she was raped in Parliament House.

Wilkinson sued Ten in a bid to force it to pay her legal costs, estimated at more than \$700,000, immediately instead of once the defamation proceedings were finished.

She opted to hire separate legal representation to defend Mr Lehrmann's case, including retaining high-profile barrister Sue Chrysanthou SC. On Friday, NSW Supreme Court Justice Michael Ball said Wilkinson's civil action would be listed for hearing on December 7 and 8. "It ought to be dealt with promptly," Justice Ball said. Mr Lehrmann has denied the allegations.

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ALI & GABY ROSENBERG Meet our new weekly columnists, founders of the Blossom micro-investing app

Making saving cool for Millennials

Anna Houlahan

WHEN it came to giving their new fintech start-up a name, sisters Ali and Gaby Rosenberg knew what word best evoked the inspiration for their innovative idea and what it aspired to achieve.

Their micro-investing app for female Millennial investors is called Blossom and it's named in honour of their late grandfather, Bertie.

The patriarch of a family of finance professionals, Bertie lost his battle with pancreatic cancer in April 2020.

A year after that heartbreak, his granddaughters launched their digital enterprise under the nickname that Bertie's mother gave him when he was a child.

The sisters reckon their grandfather would laugh to know the pet name his family would never let him forget lives on and he would love how it is opening the door to investing for many who have traditionally been shut out.

"We told people in the industry 'just because you're privileged doesn't mean you're the only one who gets access to this,'" Gaby Rosenberg says.

Gaby, who's 26, and Ali, aged 30, are the bright young faces of Australia's next generation of finance technology entrepreneurs.

Identifying a gap in the market for novice investors, their mobile app aims to help people put modest savings towards passive investment.

"Young people, young women, want to be more savvy with their savings," Gaby says.

Between the rollercoaster of cryptocurrency and the high barriers to entering the stock market, it can be difficult for younger and lower- and middle-income Australians to get a foothold.

But the Sydney-based sisters figured that making fixed income investing more accessible could help people build wealth.

Fixed income investments involve generally low-risk assets such as government bonds which provide a fixed stream of income through interest or dividends.

Traditionally, these types of investments have been reserved for hedge funds, financial institutions, super funds and high net-worth individuals because they require high minimum investment amounts and lock up money for longer periods.

But Blossom, as a micro-investing platform, requires a minimum investment of only \$5.

Launched in July 2021, it has amassed 13,000 customers with \$40 million under management in the Blossom Fund, a professionally managed portfolio of cash, semi-government and government bonds and mortgage-backed securities.

"We're democratising the fixed income market," Ali Rosenberg explains.

"It doesn't matter if you have \$5, \$500 or \$5 million," everyone has access to 5.95 per cent per annum targeted returns.

"It's been a really exciting time for us because we've just increased our rates to the most competitive in the market," she says.

Millennial investors in particular have embraced the app to save lump sums for weddings, holidays and home deposits.

Blossom encourages customers to take their micro-investing seriously by squirrelling away every spare dollar and cent. The app can be linked with mobile banking software to round up everyday purchases to an even dollar amount and each week Blossom sweeps up the loose change and



Each Monday across the ACM network, Gaby (left) and Ali Rosenberg, founders of the Blossom app, will offer quick tips for big wins in understanding your money. Go & Grow starts November 20. Pictured below: Gaby with late grandfather Bertie. Main picture by Cameron Forrester



Young people, young women, want to be more savvy with their savings.

Gaby Rosenberg

funnels it into an account.

Gaby, who is saving her own home deposit with Blossom, insists "you don't need to be brave to invest".

While the fear of choosing a single stock and watching it plummet in value can be terrifying, using funds like Blossom as an investment vehicle allowed you to choose your level of risk and have professionals handle the management.

The Blossom Fund is managed by Fortlake Asset Management. Fortlake's liquidity manager Dr Christian Baylis, who has two decades of experience in fixed income investing and a PhD in econometrics, helps the sisters grow the fund.

Driven by the desire to remove "as many restrictions in the market as possible", the Rosenbergs say they wanted an "easier and fairer way" for people trying to save.

"As we know, there are fewer options for Aussies to do more with their money," Ali says. "Especially if you take the environment now with volatile interest rates, shaky equity markets and global uncertainty because of all the interest rate changes."

A key part of Blossom's appeal for millennials is its commitment to social responsibility, sustainability and inclusion, including ethical and environmentally responsible investments that exclude coal, oil and gas.

It also donates to tree planting in bush-fire-affected regions and cancer research by the Garvan Institute.

The Rosenbergs say their mission to leave their customers' savings and the environment "much better than we found them" reflects their grandfather Bertie's "spirit and ethos". The family affair extends to their father, Lance Rosenberg, the CEO of Gleneagle Securities, which is the responsible entity for Blossom's fund.

Both siblings launched out of university into nimble online businesses, learning the ropes before embarking on their future venture as co-founders.

The sisters now work side-by-side at Blossom after Ali took a full-time role this year with the outfit's five-person team.

Despite its youth appeal, the sisters say their app is also being embraced by other demographics.

Single parents have Blossom as a source of passive income, retirees use it to grow their nest eggs and "super financially literate" crypto-enthusiasts are diversifying their portfolio with lower-risk bonds.

And recently Blossom has expanded into business and self-managed super fund products.

"We have a really engaged group of customers that are always happy to give us feedback that drives most of our innovation," Ali says.

Each week across the ACM network, Blossom app co-founders Ali and Gaby Rosenberg will offer quick tips for big wins in understanding your money. Go & Grow starts Monday, November 20.

ACM co-owner Alex Waislitz is a shareholder of Fortlake Asset Management. ACM is the publisher of this newspaper.

GO&GROW
Would I be a happy
millionaire? STARTS MONDAY

GARRY LINNELL

COMMENT

Eye for an eye leaves everybody blind

WHY aren't you filled with hate, Danny?

He killed three of your children and one of their cousins. They were just kids dreaming of ice cream on a sweltering summer evening when he came out of nowhere, crazed on booze and drugs, his powerful ute a two-tonne, out of control missile.

How do you keep doing it, Danny? Why aren't you consumed with murderous rage?

He'd been tailgating cars. Flipping his middle finger at other drivers. Swerving maniacally, bare-chested and laughing, from one lane to another. Before his car mounted that footpath, before he ploughed into those kids without even touching the brakes, before he destroyed so many lives, he was speeding at more than 130km/h.

In a 50km/h zone.

You're a man of deep faith, Danny. A Maronite Catholic. You know there are places in the Bible that say it's alright to take an eye for an eye. A wound for a wound. A life for a life. Most of us would understand if vengeance burned inside you. We might have looked the other way had you decided to get even.

But you're a better person than most of us, Danny Abdallah. That's for sure. You're unlike so many in today's world. You understand and appreciate what Martin Luther King meant when he said that old law of an eye for an eye leaves everybody blind.

The rest of us struggle with that, Danny. Mightily. We think about exacting revenge for the smallest of personal slights. We're so sodden with pride, so filled with our own self-importance, we nurse and nourish our petty grudges throughout our lives.

Yet this week you revealed that you'd recently visited that killer of your children, Samuel Davidson, in prison. That you shook his hand. That you told him you forgive him.

It's almost four years since Davidson took the lives of your 13-year-old

son Antony, your daughters Angelina, 12, and Sienna, 8, along with their 11-year-old cousin Veronique Sakr. It had been a hot February day in 2020. Around 7.30pm you decided to empower the kids, to bestow a little responsibility on them, by letting them stroll down the street on their own to buy ice cream.

Davidson, then a 31-year-old truck driver, had been snorting cocaine and methamphetamine and drinking all day with friends when his Mitsubishi Triton smashed into those kids in Oatland in Sydney's northwest.

It was a week after the first positive case in Australia of COVID-19. If we feared our world was about to change, we couldn't begin to imagine what happened to yours in the carnage of that night. The news footage was unimaginable, the scale of what had been taken from you and your wife so incomprehensible, many of us had to look away.

You could have locked your doors. Kept the curtains drawn. Let the grief and bitterness fester and gnaw at your insides until it destroyed you and what remained of your family. But you're not like most of us, Danny.

"I was at a crossroads in my life," you admitted. "The hardest question as a parent is you can lose your whole family with bitterness and seek revenge, or you can keep half of your family and find forgiveness."

So you visited Davidson in prison where he is serving a maximum sentence of 20 years. How could you walk in there and not want to throttle him, to watch whatever light remained in his eyes slowly fade to nothing?

"I shook his hand and he just fell to his knees, put his head on the floor and said 'I'm sorry, I'm sorry I took your kids'."

And Danny, that wasn't the first time you provided absolution to Davidson, either. A week into his sentence you started receiving messages from inside the prison. Its inmates were no different to the rest of us. "A



Leila and Danny Abdallah at the sentencing of Samuel Davidson, who pleaded guilty to the deaths of their children and injuring three others. Picture AAP

Why aren't you consumed with murderous rage?

guy who was angry with what had happened said 'Mate, he's gone.'

You defused the situation. "I said 'leave him alone. He's forgiven,' you told the Christian website Eternity. How did that man plotting to hurt Davidson respond? He sent you a message with emoji tears and wrote: 'You've broken me.'"

So just keep doing what you do, Danny.

In a world burning with hate, where so many lives are cruelled daily by retribution,

keep promoting your i4give Day. Keep campaigning, along with your wife, Leila, who is pregnant again, for a National Day of Forgiveness every February 1.

Continue reminding us that we can be better people, Danny, before that desire for vengeance blinds us all.

Garry Linnell, author of *The Devil's Work*, *Moonlight* and *Buckley's Chance*, is a regular contributor to the popular weekday newsletter, *The Echidna*.



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Private Capital



WITH MEGAN DOHERTY
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CANBERRA LIFE AS WE KNOW IT

There'll be no burger battle in Phillip

A NEW McDonald's store opened in Phillip yesterday on the old Magnet Mart site, just up the road from Brodburger, which isn't expecting a battle of the burger any time soon.

But there may be a precinct petrol war, with Metro Petroleum also opening on Hindmarsh Drive as a tenant on the new McDonald's site, yesterday selling unleaded about 13 cents cheaper than other service stations in the area.

Brodburger co-owner Sascha Brodbeck said he welcomed the arrival of Maccas to the Hindmarsh Drive site, saying it was a case of "the more the merrier".

He said the new Metro Petroleum service station, which has opened next door to the Maccas as a tenant on the site, would bring more traffic to the area and also more customers to the little red Brod van.

"I've never, ever looked at McDonald's as competition," he said.

"We are super excited to see McDonald's come here, the more the merrier."

Mr Brodbeck was also focused on opening a new Brodburger in Tuggeranong at the South.Point shopping centre in mid-December.

"I'm pretty pumped to see more traffic in the [Phillip] area," he said.

But yesterday it was all about Maccas.

The Phillip store is the fifth McDonald's in the national capital now owned by Canberra man Brad Carroll, who started with the burger giant as a 14-year-old crew member in his hometown of Wagga Wagga.

Mr Carroll and his wife Kate, as part of their Brate Group, also own the McDonald's at Manuka, Westfield Woden, Molonglo Valley and Weston.

The father-of-three contemplated his journey from teenage crew member to Maccas magnate.

"It's surreal as a 14-year-old who started at McDonald's as an after-school job to be here in Canberra opening our fifth restaurant," he said.

"We have 650 employees now across the organisation. It's really touching that we can employ so many people in Canberra and



Phillip is the fifth McDonald's to be opened in Canberra by local man Brad Carroll. Pictures by Karleen Minney



Metro Petroleum has also opened as a tenant on the site.



The new McDonald's is on Hindmarsh Drive.

help develop them and set them off on their future success, whether it's in our business or [elsewhere] in the Canberra economy."

The McDonald's store at Phillip was built by Monarch Building Services.

McDonald's said it had injected more than \$14 million into the local economy and created more than 100 jobs across crew, barista, management and maintenance.

The new Metro Petroleum was selling

unleaded petrol for 199.9 cents a litre and E10 petrol for 197.9 cents per litre yesterday, likely to spark competition with the other outlets in the area.

While it opened to customers yesterday, McDonald's Phillip will today be hosting a grand opening on McHappy Day, the largest annual fundraiser for Ronald McDonald House Charities to help support seriously ill or injured children. There will be an appear-

We are super excited to see McDonald's come here, the more the merrier.

Brodburger co-owner Sascha Brodbeck

ance by McDonald's character Grimace from noon to 1pm and Canberra Raiders players from 11.30am to 1pm. Kristen and Nige from MIX 106.3 will be broadcasting from the Phillip site from 10.30am to 1pm.

The new Maccas in Phillip has the first dual-lane drive-through in Woden Valley, a McCafe, dine-in seating, delivery and a small playground.

"It's really exciting to get this project together and open it to the general public," Mr Carroll said.

Fetes, Marymead monster sale, sheep dogs and more this weekend

FETES AHoy

The Holy Cross Hackett fete is on today from 10am to 3pm.

Lots of stalls, food and entertainment at the Holy Cross Anglican Church in Antill Street, Hackett.

The Orana Steiner School Spring Fair is on tomorrow from 11am to 3pm.

There will be stalls, activities for the kids and food including curries at the school in Unwin Place, Weston.

SHEEP DOG TRIALS

The 2023 Monaro Sheep Dog Trial Championships will be held today and tomorrow at the Bredbo Recreation Grounds, featuring some of the state's top sheepdogs and handlers.

Come along and watch as the dogs navigate their sheep through obstacles whilst retaining as many points as possible. Competition starts 7.30am daily and spectators are welcome. Lunch and light refreshments will be available for purchase during the trial.

MARYMEAD'S MONSTER SALE

This is the big one - Marymead's Christmas Monster Garage and Plant Sale. It's Marymead's biggest sale of the year, with toys, books, clothes and much more. It's on today from 8am to 12.30pm at 255 Goyder Street, Narrabundah.

THE LITTLE VILLAGE MARKETS

The Little Village Markets are markets

where kids get to make products and sell them. The next one is on today from 2pm to 4pm at the Gordon Community Centre at 110 Lewis Luxton Avenue. Come along and support a little business person.

SCONE-OFF

Find out who bakes the best scone in the national capital at the very first Canberra Scone-Off competition. It's on today from 9am to 1pm at Uniting Care Kippax, on the corner of Hardwick Crescent and Luke Street in Holt.

HARVEST STALL

The Harvest Stall will be open at the National Arboretum Canberra tomorrow from 10am to 2pm.



Farmer Tom will be at the Little Village Markets in Gordon today. Picture supplied



NEWCASTLE SATURDAY

CODE: SR

DAILY DOUBLE 8 & 10

EARLY QUADDIE 3, 4, 5, 6

TREBLE 8, 9, 10

QUADRELLA 7, 8, 9, 10

BIG6 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10

TIPS BY TIM BARROW

TRACK: SOFT (5) RAIL: TRUE

12.35 NZB Airfreight Max Lees Classic 900m

Zyo SW-P. Apprentices can claim \$160,000.						
No	Form	Horse	Jockey	Wgt	Rtg	Price
1	GRAM (7)	T Schiller	56.5	94	5.00	
2	MARKET MAGIC (4)	T Clark	56.5	100	2.30	
3	BODY OF VENUS h (8)	T Sherry	54.5	90	17.00	
4	EFHARISTO (2)	Zac Lloyd (a)	54.5	99	9.50	
5	ERNO'S CUBE (3)	J Collett	54.5	98	4.00	
6	7 GIMME GIMME (1)	A Morgan	54.5	96	19.00	
7	NYMPHADORA (9)	Ms R King	54.5	81	34.00	
8	7 SHOUTABOUT (6)	R Jones	54.5	87	34.00	
9	TRIPLE YES (5)	S Clipperton	54.5	82	13.00	
GRAM Ferno's Lyba Market Minnie 58pinto.						

GRAM, Erno's Cube, Market Magic, Eharisto

2.10 Karaka 2024 Midway Handicap 1600m

Benchmark 72 Apprentices can claim \$120,000						
No	Form	Horse	Jockey	Wgt	Rtg	Price
1	96120	IRISH KISSES dth (11)	T Schiller	59	87	12.00
2	60936	TEOSENTHOSE dth (9)	N Rawiller	59	98	2.30
3	40900	UNAMERICAN tw (1)	Ms R King	58	87	26.00
4	68577	COSMIC FIELD tw (12)	A Morgan	57.5	94	11.00
5	23664	RESISTIBLE tw (3)	D Gibbons (a)	56	100	1.40
6	64137	MODERN MILLIE dth (10)	Zac Lloyd (a)	56	98	6.50
7	76622	TOUCH OF NAVY h (5)	T Sherry	55	91	26.00
8	05083	STRAY (7)	C Schofield	54.5	95	15.00
9	10526	LET ME REIGN dth (6)	R Jones	54	100	10.00
10	74366	SIAM dth (4)	Ms K Adams	54	79	71.00
11	86622	STREET CANDI dth (2)	Ms A Roper (a3)	53.5	93	26.00
12	43567	ALASTOR dth (1)	M J Duggan	52.5	87	101.00
RESISTIBLE, Cosmic Field, Teosenthose, Modern Millie						

RESISTIBLE, Cosmic Field, Teosenthose, Modern Millie

3.145 TAB Highway Handicap 1600m

3yo & up Class 3. Apprentices can claim \$120,000

No	Form	Horse	Jockey	Wgt	Rtg	Price
1	79648	IMATREUSTAR (9)	A Hyeronimus	59	88	23.00
2	26102	REMATCH tw (16)	N Rawiller	58	99	2.60
3	13445	HE'S A COPY BOY dth (20)	Scratched	57	-	-
4	44255	SATY CHICKEN d (4)	J Parr	57	97	6.50
5	95104	BELIEVE SO dth (7)	Scratched	55.5	-	-
6	34154	CALL ME LOUIS tw (19)	Scratched	55.5	-	-
7	57169	SHARP SHOCK w (11)	R Jones	55.5	100	9.50
8	20241	SKYFORGER dth (12)	R Simpson (a3)	55.5	94	11.00
9	2517	ECHOES OF MY MIND (7)	Jett Stanley (a2)	55	84	34.00
10	67115	DEVOCEAN d (18)	D Gibbons (a)	54.5	93	12.00
11	6247	LAWYER'S DELIGHT w (2)	J Collett	54.5	88	26.00
12	63601	ROSSY'S TYPA GIRL dth (1)	T Ford	54	91	26.00
13	60511	CAPTAIN UNDERPANTZ w (8)	T Sherry	54	97	10.00
14	45608	DAKSHA dth (13)	Ms A Roper (a3)	54	80	151.00
15	50111	LEICA MODEL w (3)	A Morgan	54	93	18.00
16	57456	ASHIM dth (14)	Scratched	54	-	-

EMERGENCIES

17	47683 DISCREET LAY w (6)	Ms K Adams	54	86	71.00
18	212 REET PETITE (15)	T Schiller	54	88	14.00
19	70051 MAGIC PHAROAM (10)	Ms R King	54	87	51.00
20	56333 CANDY KISS dth (5)	Scratched	54	84	151.00

SATY CHICKEN, Rematch, Skyforger, Reet Petite

4.220 NZB Insurance Handicap 1400m

No	Form	Horse	Jockey	Wgt	Rtg	Price
1	50053	ZOE'S PROMISE wh (6)	J Collett	61.5	96	9.50
2	36685	MISSY MOOLA dw (5)	A Hyeronimus	60	57	14.00
3	59463	PORTRAY dth (7)	N Rawiller	60	96	2.30
4	42143	FALL FOR CINDY dw (10)	T Schiller	59	100	4.60
5	48365	LEKVATE dw (4)	J Parr	59	97	8.50
6	68111	HIDE YOUR HEART dth (9)	Ms A Roper (a3)	57	91	9.50
7	64106	RUNNING BEAR dw (2)	R Jones	56	95	34.00
8	54414	MISS MY CROWN dw (3)	D Gibbons (a)	54.5	94	13.00
9	55155	FAIRWAY STAR w (8)	Ms R King	54	93	2.00
10	56422	EXTRA SMART (1)	Jett Stanley (a2)	52	89	22.00

PORTRAY, Zoe's Promise, Fall For Cindy, Hide Your Heart.

PORTRAY, Zoe's Promise, Fall For Cindy, Hide Your Heart

5.255 Alf Kneebone Trans-Tasman Trophy 1850m

No	Form	Horse	Jockey	Wgt	Rtg	Price
1	95683	ARAMAYO th (10)	Ms A Roper (a3)	60.5	84	15.00
2	22814	KING OF THE CASTLE w (5)	N Rawiller	60	81	4.60
3	31035	HERMAN HESSE w (8)	D Gibbons (a)	59	87	34.00
4	43065	CAMAGUEY (2)	Zac Lloyd (a)	57.5	84	11.00
5	05000	DREAMFLIGHT w (6)	R Jones	57.5	72	126.00
6	50521	PERVADE w (7)	J Collett	57.5	93	4.60
7	22559	WINGGLASS BAY wh (4)	T Schiller	57	89	9.50
8	05066	PROMITTO wh (7)	Scratched	56.5	-	-
9	05008	GLOUTHALINE (2)	A Hyeronimus	56	77	51.00
10	05004	HEAD OF STATE (3)	Scratched	56	-	-
11	76805	I'M A DIRTY RASCAL w (11)	T Clark	56	97	26.00
12	43951	IMINTOWIN (9)	R Bayliss	55.5	100	2.30

FMINTOWN, King Of The Castle, Pervade, Wingglass Bay

IMINTOWIN, King Of The Castle, Pervade, Wingglass Bay

6.330 NZ Bloodstock The Beauford 2300m

3yo & up. Apprentices can claim \$30000

No	Form	Horse	Jockey	Wgt	Rtg	Price
1	56994	NUMERIAN wb (1)	A Hyeronimus	62	92	5.50
2	50984	STOCKMAN w (7)	N Rawiller	59.5	90	8.00
3	40506	SKY LAB tw (6)	J Collett	59	91	5.50
4	50004	TORRENS dth (3)	Ms J Duggan	56	90	17.00
5	35712	STROKE OF LUCK tw (14)	Zac Lloyd (a)	55.5	92	8.00
6	50482	PARRY SOUND w (12)	R Bayliss	54	93	16.00
7	5176	OLYMPIC GAZE dth (4)	T Sherry	54	88	34.00
8	07508	BABY RIDER w (2)	Ms R King	53.5	88	26.00
9	95357	CANBERRA LEGEND wb (5)	T Schiller	53	99	4.20
10	25059	YOUTH SPIRIT w (8)	T Clark	53	89	17.00
11	58921	ANDALUS w (15)	Ms A Collett	52	91	14.00
12	80731	DARK DREAM wh (11)	Ms A Roper (a3)	52	100	23.00
13	70089	TAPPY'S LAB w (10)	Jett Stanley (a2)	52	81	151.00
14	75993	TAPIDOODLEDD w (13)	R Jones	52	91	41.00
15	75065	VELVET LADY w (9)	Scratched	52	-	-

SKY LAB, Stroke Of Luck, Numerian, Canberra Legend

7.405 NZ Bloodstock Spring Stakes 1600m

3yo SW Group 3. Apprentices cannot claim \$250,000						
No	Form	Horse	Jockey	Wgt	Rtg	Price
1	25047	KINTYRE (18)	A Hyeronimus	56.5	93	5.50
2	54517	INFUENTIAL (7)	J Parr	56.5	100	7.50
3	11	INVINCIBLE SPY dth (9)	T Clark	56.5	95	4.20
4	32516	SLY BOOTS h (6)	R Bayliss	56.5	96	9.00
5	231	JURISPRUDENCE dw (13)	J Collett	56.5	80	41.00
6	05414	METALLIC RULER th (3)	C Schofield	56.5	93	21.00
7	1	HEADS YOU LOSE w (12)	T Schiller	56.5	76	41.00
8	55132	UNCLE HARRY w (1)	R Jones	56.5	90	71.00
9	21	UNTE VALHALLA (5)	Ms R King	54.5	94	5.50
10	9190	VIENTE (14)	Ms R Freeman	54	94	126.00
11	25611	GENZANO (11)	Zac Lloyd (a)	54.5	93	71.00
12	15	JUST IN TIME (14)	D Gibbons (a)	54.5	90	2.50
13	16766	MAH ALI (12)	J Ford	54.5	91	41.00
14	24401	KIND WORDS wh (1)	S Clipperton	54.5	84	13.00
UNTE VALHALLA, Invincible Spy, Infuential, Just In Time						

UNTIL VALHALLA, Invincible Spy, Infuential, Just In Time

GALLOPS LEGEND: Won at track, c won here this distance, d won this distance on another course, w won on rain affected ground, n won at night, s spell of three months, b beaten favourite last start, h home track, d disqualified, f fell, p pulled up, l lost rider

RACE 2 1.10 1600m

1	IRISH KISSES (T J Bartlett) 6M 25-5-4 4 183120 Gave all for len 2nd of 14 (9) \$60.00 300m Hollywood Hero 1600m Concomble Concomble Cup Good(4) Oct 8. Hampered near 250m when 3/4 len 17th of 20 (8) \$9.50 320 Spring 1600m Ruck Little Dance Good(4) Nov 7. No luck as a \$250 chance in the Little Dance last time. Proven here. Can bounce back.
2	TEOSENTHOSE U G Sargent 5G 174-2-4 519460 Tried hard when 1/2 len, shd 1/2 3rd of 9 (10) \$11.00 570 Ironwader, Hokiana 1550m Randwick Kensington 3yo (Bm72) Good(4) Oct 18. Began awkwardly, raced wide without cover when 2/5 len 6th of 20 (18) \$10.00 610 Sweet Mercy 1500m Rthl 3yo Mway-Bm58 Good(4) Nov 4. Far from disgraced in The Four Pillars at Rosehill last time. Exceeds this trip. Must be considered.
3	UNAMERICAN (Richard & Will Freedman) 7G 35-3-2 2208145 Began awkwardly when 3/4 len 12th of 15 (10) \$101.00 560 Pace Officer 1400m Ruck 3yo Mway-Bm72 Good(4) Oct 21. Began awkwardly, lost ground, taken back from wide barrier when 1/4 len 18th of 20 (18) \$20.00 520 Alf Kneebone 1600m Ruck Big Dance Good(4) Nov 7. Long odds and safely held in the Big Dance at Randwick last start. Luff needed.
4	COSMIC FIELD (Nathan Doyle) 4G 6-3-0 561500 Vetted no abnormalities when 10/11 len 7th of 8 (5) \$11.00 565 Body Bob 1300m Randwick Kensington 3yo (Bm72) Good(4) Oct 4. Keen, checked near 400m, laid in near 100m when 1/4 len 11th of 8 (2) \$3.60 585 Street Candy, Oakfield Twilight 1500m Newcastle (Bm68) Good(4) Nov 4. Local who swept to lead and clear to salute in superb fashion in weaker class here last outing. Fitter for two runs back. Can figure again.

5. RESISTIBLE (Michael Freedman) 4M 13-2-2 1181015 Began awkwardly when 1/4 len 6th of 10 (4) \$3.60 585 Salsano 1200m Newcastle Midway Good(3) Oct 17. Lost a plate when 1/4 len 4th of 20 (10) \$7.50 575 Sweet Mercy 1500m Rthl 3yo Mway-Bm58 Good(4) Nov 4. Terrific run in The Four Pillars last time. Fitter third up. Well placed from the perfect draw. Rates highly.

6. MODERN MILLIE (Nathan Doyle) 8M 22-2-3 1313566 Found the line in 1/4 len 1/2 3rd of 9 (10) \$19.00 585 Fall For Cindy Let Me Reign 1400m W Farm 3yo F&M (Bm72) Good(4) Oct 21. Settled midfield when 2/5 len 7th of 20 (10) \$16.00 575 Sweet Mercy 1500m Rthl 3yo Mway-Bm58 Good(4) Nov 4. Entitled to finish closer in the Four Pillars at Rosehill. Seldom wins but can't discount.

7. TOUCH OF NAVY (John Bannister) 4G 12-3-0 533300 Began awkwardly when 1/4 len 2nd of 7 (2) \$3.00 615 Royal 1400m Score (Bm32) Soft(6) Oct 27. Protest lodged, dismissed when 1/2 2nd of 8 (2) \$5.00 580 Heika 1500m Muswellbrook (Bm66) Good(4) Nov 5. Last two solid on country tracks but this is clearly stronger. One for multiples.

8. STRAY (J. J. Cummings) 3M 18-3-1 376725 Began awkwardly when 4/5 len 8th of 9 (9) \$21.00 585 Fall For Cindy 1400m W Farm 3yo F&M (Bm72) Good(3) Oct 11. Began awkwardly when 1/4 len 1st of 7 (7) \$5.00 585 Zeta, Adelaide 1500m Randwick-Kensington 3yo F&M (Bm72) Good(4) Nov 1. Closed intently from well back to place at Randwick-Kensington last outing. Fitter for three runs back. Both toes.

9. LET ME REIGN (Lee & Cherie Curtis) 4M 12-3-1 5165200 Laid out near 200m when 1/4 len 2nd of 9 (6) \$21.00 570 Fall For Cindy 1400m W Farm 3yo F&M (Bm72) Good(3) Oct 11. Battled away for 3/4 len 6th of 9 (5) \$13.00 520 Imintown 1500m Rthl 3yo Mway-Bm58 Good(4) Nov 4. Fair effort without threatening at Rosehill last time. Extra 100m suits and regular jockey on top. One for exotics.

10. SCRALED (Cody Morgan) 5G 12-3-2 182455 Hung out during race, proved difficult to ride out, vetted no abnormalities when 4/5 len 5th of 10 (10) \$8.00 570 Sunset Source 1815m E Farm Place (C3) Good(4) Oct 21. Hung out during race, vetted no abnormalities when 3/4 len 5th of 10 (3) \$4.60 520 Applications 2000m Dben (Bm78) Soft(5) Oct 28. Handy and battled on okay at latest. Reverts to shorter trip but nicely drawn. Has claims.

11. BELIEVE SO (Dan Edwards) 6G 21-3-3 574085 Safely held in 13/16 len last of 13 (4) \$14.00 555 Whodunnit 1800m Ruck 3yo Hway (C3) Good(4) Oct 21. Raced wide without cover when 1/4 len 4th of 8 (5) \$10.00 550 Aheadofhistime 1450m Kempsay Open (Bm22) Soft(7) Nov 10. SCRALED.

12. CALL ME LOUIS (Lee Chandler) 4G 9-2-1 3501225 Far effort in 3/4 len 5th of 7 (14) \$18.00 555 Chase My Crown 1500m Rthl 3yo Hway (C3) Good(4) Oct 7. Raced wide without cover when 1/4 len 4th of 16 (18) \$19.00 555 The Dramatist 1400m Rthl Hway-C3 Good(4) Nov 11. On a quick back-up just behind the placegetters at Rosehill last start. Keep safe.

8.445 The Newcastle Herald Hunter 1300m

8

4.45

The Newcastle Herald Hunter

1300m

3yo & up Quality Apprentices cannot claim \$1,000,000

No	Form	Horse	Jockey	Wgt	Rtg	Price
1	35905	MAZU wh (6)	N Rawiller	59	96	4.60
2	60556	VILANA dth (16)	Scratched	58	-	-
3	24528	KING OF SPARTA w (10)	C Schofield	57.5	96	6.50
4	51612	I AM ME w (4)	Scratched	57	-	-
5	11124	STRAIT ACER dth (5)	Scratched	57	-	-
6	05344	COAL CRUSHER dth (2)	T Schiller	56.5	96	5.50
7	61057	RUSTIC STEEL dth (18)	S Clipperton	56	88	16.00
8	50605	DARK DESTROYER dth (7)	T Sherry	55.5	81	61.00
9	70996	EXCELLENT PROPOSAL dth (11)	J Parr	55.5	90	41.00
10	78157	AYTORN d (9)	Scratched	55	-	-
11	62243	FAR TOO EASY w (1)	J Collett	54	97	5.50
12	58565	RACKETING BY W (12)	R Bayliss	54	89	34.00
13	78048	SINAWAN w (5)	R Jones	53.5	88	41.00
14	25425	OPAL RIDGE dth (14)	D Gibbons (a)	53	98	8.50
15	10575	DAJRAAN w (13)	T Clark	53	97	13.00
16	82595	GRAVINA wh (7)	Zac Lloyd (a)	53	96	23.00

Note: Race times correct at time of publication.

EMERGENCIES

17. 50365 MILITARY EXPERT tw (3) Ms R King 52 96 16.00

18. 22342 UMGAWA dth (8) Scratched 52 -

19. 22581 MUCH MUCH BETTER dth (19) Scratched 52 -

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9.520 NZB Kurt Fearnley Legend Mile 1600m

2	05066	PROMITTO	tw (11)	Zac Lloyd (a)	61.5	80	21.00
3	74175	ROGUE BEAR	wh (9)	N Rawiller	60.5	89	12.00
4	65509	MAJOR ARTIE	dth (11)	T Clark	60	85	21.00
5	54408	COLOUR SERGEANT	dth (4)	J Collett	59	84	21.00
6	19592	OAKFIELD WARATHA	dth (12)	Ms A Roper (a3)	59	93	9.00
7	96120	IRISH KISSES	dth (10)	Scratched	56	-	-
8	83371	SWEET MERCY	wn (2)	A Hyeronimus	56	96	4.00
9	85440	PANDANO	dth (5)	Ms R King	56	91	10.00
10	15171	THE HUNGARIAN	dth (7)	A Morgan	56	86	17.00
11	11257	TAVI TIME	wmb (8)	D Gibbons (a)	55.5	100	13.00
12	5105	WESTERN FRONT	w (6)	C Schofield	55	95	26.00

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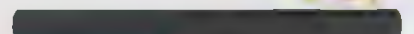


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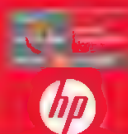
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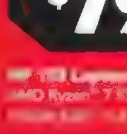
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iPad (9th Gen)
Wi-Fi 64GB.^†

5321025 /6



SAVE²
\$100

From
\$648ea

iPad (10th Gen)
Wi-Fi 64GB.^{^†}
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iPhone 12 64GB.*†
5044746



SAVE*
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\$348

**Watch SE (GPS)
40mm with Sports
Band.*† 5922072**

5005072

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[1] J. J. O'Regan, *Nonlinear Analysis*, vol. 1, pp. 1-10, 1991.

*2 hours of rest is applied on page 1. notes A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z, AA, AB, AC, AD, AE, AF, AG, AH, AI, AJ, AK, AL, AM, AN, AO, AP, AQ, AR, AS, AT, AU, AV, AW, AX, AY, AZ, BA, BB, BC, BD, BE, BF, BG, BH, BI, BJ, BK, BL, BM, BN, BO, BP, BQ, BR, BS, BT, BU, BV, BW, BX, BY, BZ, CA, CB, CC, CD, CE, CF, CG, CH, CI, CJ, CK, CL, CM, CN, CO, CP, CQ, CR, CS, CT, CU, CV, CW, CX, CY, CZ, DA, DB, DC, DD, DE, DF, DG, DH, DI, DJ, DK, DL, DM, DN, DO, DP, DQ, DR, DS, DT, DU, DV, DW, DX, DY, DZ, EA, EB, EC, ED, EE, EF, EG, EH, EI, EJ, EK, EL, EM, EN, EO, EP, EQ, ER, ES, ET, EU, EV, EW, EX, EY, EZ, FA, FB, FC, FD, FE, FF, FG, FH, FI, FJ, FK, FL, FM, FN, FO, FP, FQ, FR, FS, FT, FU, FV, FW, FX, FY, FZ, GA, GB, GC, GD, GE, GF, GG, GH, GI, GJ, GK, GL, GM, GN, GO, GP, GQ, GR, GS, GT, GU, GV, GW, GX, GY, GZ, HA, HB, HC, HD, HE, HF, HG, HH, HI, HJ, HK, HL, HM, HN, HO, HP, HQ, HR, HS, HT, HU, HV, HW, HX, HY, HZ, IA, IB, IC, ID, IE, IF, IG, IH, II, IJ, IK, IL, IM, IN, IO, IP, IQ, IR, IS, IT, IU, IV, IW, IX, IY, IZ, JA, JB, JC, JD, JE, JF, JG, JH, JI, JJ, JK, JL, JM, JN, JO, JP, JQ, JR, JS, JT, JU, JV, JW, JX, JY, JZ, KA, KB, KC, KD, KE, KF, KG, KH, KI, KJ, KK, KL, KM, KN, KO, KP, KQ, KR, KS, KT, KU, KV, KW, KX, KY, KZ, LA, LB, LC, LD, LE, LF, LG, LH, LI, LJ, LK, LL, LM, LN, LO, LP, LQ, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, LW, LX, LY, LZ, MA, MB, MC, MD, ME, MF, MG, MH, MI, MJ, MK, ML, MM, MN, MO, MP, MQ, MR, MS, MT, MU, MV, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NB, NC, ND, NE, NF, NG, NH, NI, NJ, NK, NL, NM, NN, NO, NP, NQ, NR, NS, NT, NU, NV, NW, NX, NY, NZ, OA, OB, OC, OD, OE, OF, OG, OH, OI, OJ, OK, OL, OM, ON, OO, OP, OQ, OR, OS, OT, OU, OV, OW, OX, OY, OZ, PA, PB, PC, PD, PE, PF, PG, PH, PI, PJ, PK, PL, PM, PN, PO, PP, PQ, PR, PS, PT, PU, PV, PW, PX, PY, PZ, QA, QB, QC, QD, QE, QF, QG, QH, QI, QJ, QK, QL, QM, QN, QO, QP, QQ, QR, QS, QT, QU, QV, QW, QX, QY, QZ, RA, RB, RC, RD, RE, RF, RG, RH, RI, RJ, RK, RL, RM, RN, RO, RP, RQ, RR, RS, RT, RU, RV, RW, RX, RY, RZ, SA, SB, SC, SD, SE, SF, SG, SH, SI, SJ, SK, SL, SM, SN, SO, SP, SQ, SR, SS, ST, SU, SV, SW, SX, SY, SZ, TA, TB, TC, TD, TE, TF, TG, TH, TI, TJ, TK, TL, TM, TN, TO, TP, TQ, TR, TS, TT, TU, TV, TW, TX, TY, TZ, UA, UB, UC, UD, UE, UF, UG, UH, UI, UJ, UK, UL, UM, UN, UO, UP, UQ, UR, US, UT, UY, UV, UW, UX, UZ, VA, VB, VC, VD, VE, VF, VG, VH, VI, VJ, VK, VL, VM, VN, VO, VP, VQ, VR, VS, VT, VU, VV, VW, VX, VY, VZ, WA, WB, WC, WD, WE, WF, WG, WH, WI, WJ, WK, WL, WM, WN, WO, WP, WQ, WR, WS, WT, WU, WV, WW, WX, WY, WZ, XA, XB, XC, XD, XE, XF, XG, XH, XI, XJ, XK, XL, XM, XN, XO, XP, XQ, XR, XS, XT, XU, XV, XW, XX, XY, XZ, YA, YB, YC, YD, YE, YF, YG, YH, YI, YJ, YK, YL, YM, YN, YO, YP, YQ, YR, YS, YT, YU, YV, YW, YX, YY, YZ, ZA, ZB, ZC, ZD, ZE, ZF, ZG, ZH, ZI, ZJ, ZK, ZL, ZM, ZN, ZO, ZP, ZQ, ZR, ZS, ZT, ZU, ZV, ZW, ZX, ZY, ZZ.

PRE-SALE



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\$352476

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GAC4750-AF

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11. The following table shows the number of people who attended the 2006 Commonwealth Games in Melbourne, Australia. The number of people who attended the 2006 Commonwealth Games in Melbourne, Australia is given in the table below. The number of people who attended the 2006 Commonwealth Games in Melbourne, Australia is given in the table below.

BLACK FRIDAY PRE-SALE



\$977.

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**SAVE***
\$300**\$1198.**

motorola razr
40 ultra 256GB
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Google Pixel 8 Pro 128GB.^{^†}
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KEMBLA GRANGE GALLOPS SATURDAY

DAILY DOUBLE 5 & 6

EARLY QUADDIE 1, 2, 3, 4

TREBLE 5, 6, 7, 8

QUADDRELLA 5, 6, 7, 8

TRACK: GOOD (4) RAIL: OUT 9M FROM THE 100M TO THE WINNING POST, OUT 7M FOR THE REMAINDER

1.30 Peroni Handicap 1200m

No Form Horse	Jockey	Wgt	Rtg	Price
1 21 ESCUTCHEON (w) (3)	C Reith	59	85	2.60
2 12525 LET'S GO BRO (d) (7)	Ms J Taylor	59	100	4.50
3 60515 PHAROAH MAGIC (d) (4)	Ms M Owen	59	93	6.00
4 21275 MASTER HINT (w) (6)	R Hutchings	58.5	92	15.00
5 15 SPEED OF LIGHT (h)	J Van Overmeer	56	86	40.00
6 0734 NOBLE ATTACK (w) (1)	K S Latham	55.5	95	2.50
7 55645 SENAPROS (w) (2)	Ms B Panya	55	92	15.00
8 95 MEGA FIGHT (h) (2)	M Bell	55	66	34.00

ESCUTCHEON, Let's Go Bro, Pharaoh Magic, Speed Of Light

2.05 Canadian Club Midway Plate 1000m

No Form Horse	Jockey	Wgt	Rtg	Price
1 65374 JUST WAI (w) (6)	C Reith	57	86	11.00
2 55 AGAINST THE LAW (9)	B Lerena	57	100	13.00
3 3535 INVADE AND CONQUER (h) (5)	R Ryan	57.5	85	6.00
4 99 VIVA VARALLO (8)	Ms D Panya	57.5	77	10.00
5 45253 SPIRITCHASER (3)	L Magorian	57	89	5.00
6 95 DASKIN (h) (1)	K S Latham	55.5	78	7.00
7 73024 GIRLINA GIRL (15)	J Van Overmeer	55.5	66	15.00
8 73024 IN MY DREAMS (4)	P Wells	55	91	4.00
9 95 NAKAMA (h) (1)	M Bell	55	57	14.00
10 464 THAIBEEFSALE (h) (13)	S Guymer	55.5	78	13.00

GIRLINA GIRL, In My Dreams, Spiritchaser, Girona Girl, Invade And Conquer

3.40 Carlton Draught Handicap 1300m

No Form Horse	Jockey	Wgt	Rtg	Price
1 15 FIRST HIGHT (9)	K S Latham	59	83	9.00
2 15 BAD INTENTIONS (1)	Ms L Day	57.5	81	9.00
3 3535 INVADE AND CONQUER (h) (5)	R Ryan	57.5	85	6.00
4 55253 SPIRITCHASER (3)	L Magorian	57	89	5.00
5 6505 ALL AT ONCE (7)	C Reith	57	86	18.00
6 40 HOLIDONTOPUSPER (h) (4)	Ms J Taylor	56.5	81	41.00
7 50655 PRETTY RYDHO (h) (8)	B Ryan	55.5	95	15.00
8 57 RUBIK LION (3)	R Hutchings	55.5	83	15.00
9 6553 EXCEED THE SKY (6)	B Lerena	56	100	4.00
10 865 LA SEULE (5)	G Buckley	56	93	41.00
12 487 BROOK LAKES (12)	Ms B Panya	55.5	91	15.00

EXCEED THE SKY, Charbonneau, Bad Intentions

4.35 Keith Wob's Rolls Memorial 1300m

No Form Horse	Jockey	Wgt	Rtg	Price
1 73555 BINGHAMTON (5)	K S Latham	59	83	6.00
2 7509 NO FEAR (h) (3)	R Ryan	58.5	77	7.50
3 72335 THIS IS THE MOMENT (h) (3)	R Downey	58.5	86	13.00
4 3535 INVADE AND CONQUER (h) (5)	G Buckley	58	67	13.00
5 15 REDFORD (5)	B Lerena	58	82	14.00
6 24 LONE FORCE (2)	S Guymer	57.5	80	15.00
7 8575 PHALOE LEGEND (10)	L Magorian	57.5	100	41.00
8 05 MY SHALIM (12)	Ms M Bourke	57	67	41.00
9 5 RUSH ATTACK (h) (8)	J Van Overmeer	57	92	9.00
10 865 PARADE GROUND (12)	C Reith	56	87	10.00
11 88440 STAND GUARD (h) (1)	A J Calder	56	96	13.00
12 56565 PRINCE OF ARENDELL (7)	M Bell	55.5	98	15.00

REDFORD, Lone Force, Show No Fear, Binghamton

This publication takes all care in compiling TAB details, but cannot accept responsibility for any errors. Readers are urged to check TAB information with the official lists before placing their bets.

CANBERRA HARNESS SATURDAY

DAILY DOUBLE 5 & 7

EARLY QUADDIE 1, 2, 3, 4

TREBLE 5, 6, 7, 8

QUADDRELLA 5, 6, 7, 8

FRONT LINE: MOBILE (6) STAND (8)

1.608 O'Sullivan Electrical Pace 1770m

No Form Horse	Driver	Hcp	Price
1 38455 BELLE OF BELMONT	S J Osmond	Fr	15.00
2 32034 DELIGHTFUL BELLA	W H Rixon	Fr	4.00
3 45365 LADY VEE	N A Turnbull	Fr	21.00
4 62827 NIFTY SHOEBIE	T L Osmond	Fr	15.00
5 55857 BARKWAY DESMOND	G R Hoy	Fr	41.00
6 95776 MANKIND	P Sapio	Fr	41.00

BARKWAY DESMOND, Mankind

2.643 Forest Harness Racing Pace 1770m

No Form Horse	Driver	Hcp	Price
1 10097 HIPSTER DUFFUS	N S Hoy	Fr	31.00
2 08793 CRUZ WITH WISDOM	N A Turnbull	Fr	18.00
3 81297 TRIOLI	H J Ross	Fr	21.00
4 68899 KANGALOOH BLING	P Sapio	Fr	41.00
5 98545 JACKS UP	L S Pando	Fr	21.00
6 43041 LITTLE CESSNA	J C Locke	Fr	7.50

LITTLE CESSNA, Aerodyne Guy, Park Run, Trioli, Little Cessna

3.719 Lonsdale Auto Electrics Pace 1770m

No Form Horse	Driver	Hcp	Price
1 81664 BLACK ART	H J Ross	Fr	9.00
2 66331 NON GRATER	L S Pando	Fr	2.50
3 26212 WAR CLUB	J N Turnbull	Fr	15.00
4 11326 SATIN BANYULA	M W Sullivan	Fr	15.00
5 74468 HALLOWEEN	B Abbott	Fr	21.00
6 73282 SIX AGENTS	T L Osmond	Fr	6.50

NON GRATER, War Club, Clementsross, Six Agents

4.750 Oskar Memorials Pace 2170m

No Form Horse	Driver	Hcp	Price
1 33646 KNOCKAWARWON	H J Ross	Fr	21.00
2 18421 VIN NUMBER	M K Hawke	Fr	5.50
3 31674 ALLIWAYS HOPE	M J Day	Fr	15.00
4 19125 POTTER	J N Turnbull	Fr	15.00
5 65841 NIFTY RONALD	T L Osmond	Fr	11.00
6 38314 MODERN MIKEY	W H Rixon	Fr	11.00

MODERN MIKEY, Woodlea Beaver, Polka Dot Dance, Vin Number, Baby Comes Bobby

5.350 Grant Purcell Handicap 1200m

No Form Horse	Jockey	Wgt	Rtg	Price
1 89055 WEST OF DALBY (w) (5)	B Ryan	59	100	18.00
2 51075 GOLD PATTERN (w) (1)	K S Latham	57	75	15.00
3 41285 LICHETER (w) (13)	C Reith	57.5	87	7.50
4 55975 OFF DA HIZZLE (8)	R Downey	57.5	91	15.00
5 45125 ULYSSES BLUE (w) (1)	P Wells	57	90	4.00
6 05542 NOBLE SERENADE (h) (12)	J Van Overmeer	56.5	94	3.60
7 51438 FERRARI GIRL (2)	M Bell	55.5	80	13.00
8 25544 ZEEMA (h) (3)	G Buckley	55.5	63	5.00
9 72591 MAGIC ALWAYS (h) (9)	S Guymer	55	81	41.00
10 64919 A TENDER LADY (h) (1)	Ms J Taylor	55	80	67.00

MAGIC ALWAYS, Tender Lady

6.545 PFD Food Services 1400m

No Form Horse	Jockey	Wgt	Rtg	Price
1 75731 JAMBEROO (w) (1)	P Wells	60	99	9.00
2 49334 HERB (w) (5)	B Ryan	59	100	4.00
3 26262 WAREWOLF (w) (2)	R Hutchings	59	97	5.00
4 10125 DREWEN (w) (1)	M Bell	58.5	81	6.00
5 66711 BULLY FOR YOU (w) (3)	S Guymer	58	99	7.50
6 57844 CRYSTAL WATERS (w) (12)	G Buckley	58	100	18.00
7 91546 MARCONI (w) (9)	K S Latham	58	99	18.00
8 10415 NOVEMBER FALLS (w) (13)	C Reith	58	100	13.00
9 89945 HASTY DUCHESS (w) (10)	Ms L Day	56.5	93	18.00
10 79436 SHAKA ROCK (w) (11)	Ms M Bourke	56.5	93	26.00
11 02544 UNDERGROUND MUSIC (w) (8)	R Downey	55.5	98	15.00
12 82023 CHARLIE LAW (w) (5)	Ms J Taylor	56	90	18.00

JAMBEROO, Hasty Duchess, Shaka Rock

7.6921 BRAVE AGENDA (w) (4) 1400m

HERB, Brave Agenda, Dresden, Sawrey

JAMBEROO (Ms D Poldein-Lane) AG 8:20-4 549725. On the speed 2 len win of 8 (5) \$26.00 575 Tulla Park, London 1200m Kembla Grange (Bm64) Soft7 Nov 7. Nov 7 in easy fashion here first up. Slips filter. Has had success at the track. Good draw. Not out of the top.

HERB (Benjamin Smith) SG 17:33 595.940. Keen, held up near turn when 1/2 len off 10 (3) \$3.80 55.5 Lagauna 1400m Kembla Grange Hcp (C) Soft7 Nov 7. Gave good account here in first. Fitter third up. Rates highly.

DREWEN (R. Downey) SG 13:52 281.280. Raced wide without cover when 1/2 len off 10 (10) \$5.50 59.0 Lagauna 1400m Kembla Grange Hcp (C) Soft7 Nov 7. Right in the thick of it here last start. Nice gate. Major player.

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The Canberra Times

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Picking up the pieces after Davis

A bruising week at the Legislative Assembly has revealed fault lines and will have a lasting impact.

JASPER
LINDELL

THE shockwave from the news about Johnathan Davis spread unevenly through the Legislative Assembly.

The speaker, Joy Burch found out by reading *The Canberra Times*. Chief Minister Andrew Barr was told on the way to board a plane for a holiday. Opposition Leader Elizabeth Lee read the story in the supermarket.

It was about 10.30am last Friday when *The Canberra Times* revealed the ACT Greens were referring to police serious allegations of sexual misconduct by one of their own.

Since then, pointed and searching questions have been asked about Mr Davis' party leaders and when they first knew of the allegations that would end his political career and thrust the Assembly into what will be a prolonged period of inquiry and introspection. The Greens had, for some days, been grappling internally with allegations Mr Davis, 31, had sex with a minor and had an inappropriate, but not illegal, relationship with a 17-year-old. Mr Davis resigned from the Greens and the Legislative Assembly late on Sunday night. That morning the *Sunday Canberra Times* had detailed allegations made by a man, now 18, about the sexual relationship he had with Mr Davis when he was 17.

The man claimed Mr Davis pressured him to keep their relationship secret because "people would have opinions but we've done nothing wrong" and asked for sexually explicit images.

The 18-year-old said he came forward because he did not have faith the Greens would name Mr Davis. "If the leader of the Greens won't, I will," he said.

Mr Davis, through a lawyer, has declined to comment on any allegations put to him.

The initial shock of the revelations soon gave way to a dramatic political rupture between Labor and the Greens.

Labor says it should have known earlier a government backbencher faced such serious allegations, and has questioned its coalition partner's handling of the allegations.

The Greens say they were trying their best to meet their obligations and be as transparent as possible. Greens leader Shane Rattenbury said there would be "lessons to be learned". As the ACT's Attorney-General, he has also spoken of the uncertainty his office had when faced with allegations of potentially illegal explicit image sharing. That uncertainty in the office of the territory's first law officer has not gone unnoticed, either.



Greens leader Shane Rattenbury, right, looks on as Johnathan Davis speaks to journalists in 2020. Picture by Sitthixay Dittthavong

The Assembly, too?

In the week since, the ramifications have raised significant questions for the Assembly, which prides itself on being a safer, more progressive and family friendly workplace than Parliament House.

The Assembly does not sit into the night like it once did. Its members and staff don't travel long distances from their families to work here.

The building is in the city, rather than encircled with a moat-like roundabout, making it easier to get outside. Access to fresh air is a good thing in the heat of any political moment.

The apparent gaps in how the Greens were able to respond to allegations levelled at Mr Davis have demonstrated even the Assembly needs to improve.

Is the Assembly equipped to handle serious allegations against its members?

Are the processes clear? If they are, are people actually familiar with them?

How can we be sure this will never happen again?

An independent inquiry, announced on Tuesday by Deputy Chief Minister Yvette Berry, is set to have clear and concise terms of reference, examine what has happened and consider improvements to Assembly processes in the future.

More detail about the inquiry is expected to be announced next week.

Political storm brews

Late on Monday morning, Greens staffers filed into the back of the Assembly's ground-floor reception room.

Cameras were already set up. They were there, still reeling from the news, to watch Mr Rattenbury explain how the Greens had handled the allegations.

Mr Rattenbury did not hold back in his disdain for the Labor party, which had issued a statement late the night before saying it had "many questions" about the Greens' actions.

"Every single member of Labor caucus has my telephone number and my email address. Not one of them contacted me across the course of the weekend or Friday to ask a single question," he said.

"I think one needs to look at the Labor party's statement last night and question the Labor party's integrity on this matter.

"For them to try and create a political advantage out of the most difficult and sensitive issue my party has ever faced reflects very poorly."

Labor and the Greens are used to political disagreements. This was something different.

The Greens' Monday press conference, called in the spirit of transparency, did offer up a significant surprise: Greens minister Emma Davidson had known of the allegations a week before Mr Rattenbury.

The Canberra Liberals have honed in on this issue. Did Ms Davidson give Mr Davis an early heads up to the allegations? There is absolutely no evidence to suggest she did.

Should this have meant the party acted sooner? Mr Rattenbury has repeatedly defended the party's handling of the issues.

"We took an approach we thought was appropriate. The information that first came to us - I don't seek to, in any way denigrate the nature of it, but it came to us in a form that was what one might consider to be a rumour," Mr Rattenbury said.

"We work in an area where rumours circulate frequently. People often circulate rumours in this environment. And we decided that we needed to have some degree of confidence that we were simply not acting on what could be an untrue rumour."

The party released a report, written by Mr Rattenbury's executive chief of staff, outlining the timeline and party's handling of the allegations.

It's clear the party released the document in an effort to be upfront. But more information meant there was more to pick through.

The young man who provided information to the Greens told *The Canberra Times* he specifically raised the issue of explicit image sharing with the party, which is not reflected in the outline of his conversation in the report.

Continued Page 51

Gutless leaders without faith, hope or charity

The public does not deserve the suits and party hacks being served up by the professional political parties. It deserves people of passion and of courage.

PEOPLE often say that we get the politicians we deserve, but I am not sure that even the Australians who voted "no" at the recent referendum deserve what passed for political leadership and quality representation that has been on recent display. The conduct of the Albanese government in succumbing to Peter Dutton-inspired panic about hardened criminal foreigners suddenly at large in the community invited questions about whether its ministers, strategists and tacticians had the moral and intellectual fibre to be fit for the offices entrusted to them 18 months ago.

Their triumph was represented by a headline in the Liberal Party organ, *The Australian*, under the headline "Humbled ALP backs in Peter's principles." Deputy Prime Minister Richard Marles presided over the series of humiliating surrenders, as no doubt he will if he succeeds in provoking a Chinese attack.

An observer might even have received an impression that the instant crisis described by *The Australian* as one of its biggest political challenges yet, was the result of some Labor policy decision, rather than a perfectly justifiable High Court decision that one cannot confine people forever if there is no country to deport them to. It was somehow or other mixed with Labor's less than uncritical support of Israel over its atrocities in Gaza, which, apparently represented anti-Semitism, and the well-known fact that Labor was always soft on crime, on criminals, on civil liberties, and on the rights of the terrorists, paedophiles and diseased secretly concealed among asylum seekers on boats. The line of attack from Peter Dutton and colleagues was shameful enough. But equally disgusting - indeed perhaps more so - was Labor's headlong retreat, fright and pre-emptive surrender over a wedge issue invented and sustained to keep Labor out of power. No one responds to the dog whistles with more commotion and panic than Labor. A party that will do that, even from government, hardly deserves to be given the reins.

Albanese, and his home affairs minister and immigration minister, were presented with an opportunity by the High Court decision. Indefinite detention in prison-like conditions is far from the worst evil of the current refugee processing system, but the High Court's decision creates a safe space for a calm reconsideration of questions it invited. There is no refugee invasion occurring at the moment, nor, at least until Dutton whipped up the fervour, any great evidence that it currently figures in the top 100 issues of pressing concern to voters.

The fact that about 100 people, a small proportion of whom had fully served their prison sentences, and then further durance vile at the whim of Morrison government ministers, did not create a significant risk for the wider community, even if it were to be assumed that some might re-offend. Australian jails regularly release violent people, and sex offenders after they have completed (usually long) sentences without inspiring widespread panic about dangerous criminals being at large. In any event, only a small proportion had been convicted of sex crimes, let alone ones on children, a



fact soon elided (after the impression was created that all were) by rehearsed use of the phrase "hardened criminals."

Bernard Keane, in *crikey.com.au* wrote compellingly, in words more cutting but pithier than I could manage, about the problem on Thursday. "In the 9/11 mindset, there's always an existential crisis and a need for action that overrides projections ... In what we might call the 9/11 worldview - the mindset that drove politicians, the media and policymakers through the long years of the failed war on terrorism - extremism isn't just an enemy, it's a way of thinking."

The eternal, urgent crisis demanding a drastic response

"In that worldview, there's always a crisis. The threat is always existential."

It might be nice to think that politicians inadequate to the task are confined to

No one responds to the dog whistles with more commotion and panic than Labor. A party that will do that hardly deserves to be given the reins.

Australia, where the harm they might do is limited. Alas it has become an international disease.

Britain, which has become a fourth-rate power over the past five years almost before our eyes, had its own High Court moment last week. The British Supreme Court found that its Rwanda solution - consciously based on Australia's Pacific solution was illegal. Britain's plan was to drop unauthorised arrivals - its own boat people - into Rwanda. There their refugee applications would be processed by Rwandan officials, funded by some British aid. Under various agreements between the British and the Rwandans, the Rwandans promised that it would not return asylum seekers to their own countries if there was a reasonable prospect of their facing punishment, or discrimination, nor to other third countries which violated human rights.

The Supreme Court upheld a Court of Appeal judgment that the agreement could not stand because there were serious risks that Rwanda could not, or might not, live up to its promises and obligations under the refugee convention. It had a bad record, including of refoulment, with a similar agreement it had made a decade ago with Israel. Even

allowing that Rwanda might have good intentions, the practical difference between fine words and what happened in practice, particularly given Rwandan political conditions, and intimidation of judges and public officials suggested that there was a real risk that adherence to the convention would be piecemeal.

Britain's latest prime minister, Rishi Sunak, seems to think that Britain can get around the court's decision by elevating its agreement to treaty status (prediction, that won't work). Even though he has recently rid himself of his own minister for home affairs, Suella Braverman, he also cannot see the opportunity for a complete rethink of abandonment of Britain's international obligations.

It is not to be doubted that there is, in Britain as much as in Australia, a significant and loud minority deeply opposed to taking in refugees, or increasingly any immigrants other than the well-heeled. Although mere opposition to more immigration is not, of itself racist, the public dialogue about refugees is increasingly so. Some politicians, including Sunak and Braverman, as well as the Brexit apostles, have championed it, and, partly inspired by Australia's Tony Abbott seized on the Rwandan "solution". Braverman manoeuvred herself into a position of defiance of her prime minister so that he was forced to sack her, a result probably satisfactory for Braverman who has leadership hopes after the Tories almost in-

evitably lose power in a landslide in a year's time. But Sunak apparently judges that he must adhere to her hardline lest Braverman use any backdown to extend her influence beyond a very right-wing rump of the party.

UK Labour is led by people more timid than Albanese and Marles

The British Labour Party is led by Sir Keir Starmer, who has about as much moral fortitude on refugee or human rights issues as Anthony Albanese or Richard Marles. Although the polls suggest that he should win the next election easily, he is, like Albanese, leaving nothing to chance and has been very cautious about anything other than vague promises, and more concentration on poor Tory performance than on different policies or approaches. He is currently facing revolt from some of his backbench over his demand for uncritical support for Israel and has little appetite for a Scott Morrison-Mike Pezzullo style campaign predicting refugee chaos and loss of control over borders by a "weak" or any policy that can be slandered as being "open doors" or "sending a message."

Of course, Sunak and Starmer point to the fact that other European countries, such



Anthony Albanese and Peter Dutton have shown terrible leadership this week after the High Court's announcement. Pictures by Sithixay Dithavong, Keegan Carroll

as Germany and Italy, are investigating Rwandan-style solutions, if not quite as cynically. They want "safe" third countries where asylum seekers can be assessed and processed before their fate is determined, and orderly systems are used to arrange settlement.

Some European countries, including Britain, argue that obligations to refugees arise not in destination countries, but in the first safe "haven" reached. This is akin to Australian efforts, before the so-called Pacific solution and appalling promises by Kevin Rudd and Tony Abbott that no one who came by boat would ever be allowed to settle in Australia.

As with Australia, there are, of course, refugees and refugees. The war in Ukraine has produced more than six million refugees scattered mostly across Europe but also in Australia, Canada and the US. Peter Dutton, likewise, appears to have a special place in his heart for any potential white South African refugees.

The more friendly reception accorded Ukrainians is in contrast with increasing hostility to waves of refugees from Iraq, Syria, and Northern Africa, even if religion and skin colour is not always mentioned.

Given the virulence of the Israeli-Palestinian conflicts, it can be anticipated that resettlement options in Europe will be resisted by significant parts of the population. Yet, as ever, many of the wars, famine and local persecution generating the supply of the displaced arise from military and political decisions made in Europe, the US and English-speaking countries. This has included interventions focused on causing regime change - which have rarely worked but displaced, impoverished and led to persecution of millions.

In time, refugee numbers will be further swelled by climate change, particularly in Africa, Southeast Asia and the Pacific. It is already having murderous impact in a struggle

What links most tech blunders, breaches

ALISON
HOWE



"CHECK, recheck, are we safe to go ahead?"

It was our job to act with due diligence; plan well, test well, implement with caution. We had to know when to go ahead and when to back out. That's what a telecom engineer is trained to do as they work on the "big pipe" that route internet data around the nation, and around the world.

I can't tell you the number of nights that I've sat in dim, cold rooms, in obscure locations, laptop plugged in to a control module of the internet superhighway. No matter how cold, or tired, or wired on cheap coffee, we were drilled with the responsibility we commanded.

Cut a finger, and you bleed, but stab an artery and you haemorrhage. It's like that working the big pipes.

For front-line engineers there is immense personal responsibility, backed up by layers of team responsibility, with every participant contributing a vital part to the stability and resilience of critical infrastructure.

There are few, if any, that "know it all" in telecoms. Generalists rely on experts. Experts achieve little without teams of knowledgeable doers at the front line of operations. It only works because of planning, co-ordination, rigorous process, incredibly smart people doing what they do best, and very practical people bringing it all together with precision.

Last week's Optus outage was a true poor-bugger moment for those of us who have been there. We've all feared it, especially the idea of being the engineer that hit go when it all went wrong.

The cause of the Optus network failure is blurry, with alleged involvement of a third-party peering network, and/or a flawed network upgrade cited. Regardless, networks have redundancy, and failure modes, that minimise the chances of, and the scale of, outages. But it's never perfect.

Engineers pursue the holy grail of maintaining "five nines" reliability, which translates to just 5.26 minutes of annual downtime, an impressively high bar to clear. In practice, many telcos offer a 99.9 per cent uptime undertaking, which equates to roughly 8.76 hours of permissible annual downtime.

Optus blew that bar in a day. The duration of that outage was undoubtedly shocking with its implications for businesses and citizens (especially vulnerable citizens), but we should take stock of other issues at play.

While it's natural to expect high reliability from telcos, we must acknowledge that achieving 100 per cent uptime is practically unattainable. Service interruptions can result from a variety of factors, including human and technical errors, natural disasters, and, increasingly, cyber breaches. And with increasingly advanced nefarious factors impacting telecom operators, disruption is likely to become more frequent and more impactful.

Beyond individuals, teams, and leadership all working to best endeavours, there's a national level view which deserves more attention. It's not just telcos under increasing pressure from disruptive forces.

It's all of our critical infrastructures. This is acknowledged by government and is addressed in legislation such as the Security

of Critical Infrastructure (SOCI) Act.

Which, whilst worthy and needed, sometimes feels like a slow burn in the right direction (perhaps an inappropriate metaphor for infrastructure at risk to natural disaster).

Are there lessons we can take from history? Those of use that worked in telecoms at the turn of this century would tell you that there are.

Twenty-five years ago, when I joined Nortel as a graduate engineer, the world was gripped in anticipation of the rollover from 1999, to the year 2000, and the fear it would herald catastrophic systems failures.

The Y2K bug, had a simple cause, where year dates were represented by their last two digits, the rollover from 99, back to 00, was going to cause havoc. Except it didn't. Often referred to as the Y2K bug hoax this was no hoax, it was a success story.

The Y2K Bug threat was averted because the risk was proactively recognised, and counter measures were prioritised, engaged with by leaders, championed by governments.

There was widespread collaboration and cooperation, with ample planning and resourcing. And all this was wrapped in effective communication leading to global awareness. For those of us who participated, it has become one of the greatest examples of global risk management of our time.

Optus is not an island. By several definitions, its network is part of a global continuum. And Optus is not alone in its responsibility to citizens and businesses.

Australia has many systems whose disruption, as we've seen with the DP World docks disruption, will cause immediate and widespread detrimental impact. At some level all these systems intertwine and become co-dependent. Telcos need electricity, electricity needs fuel, fuel needs transportation, transportation needs freely operating transit routes; and so on.

With an increasing threat landscape targeting increasingly complex and intertwined systems of infrastructure, we face cumulative and cascading impacts from disruption. To mitigate these potential impacts, Australia needs to back itself, building integrated risk management approaches which absorb the best of operations (people, processes, and systems) from across all critical infrastructures, and treat them with a holistic approach.

To analyse, optimise and contingency plan across this level of complexity will take our best brains applying our most advanced analytical technologies, such as artificial intelligence. It's not futuristic, it's here and now; Australia has these capabilities, in the domain of the CSIRO, our universities, and in private sector sovereign capabilities like Sentient Hubs.

Investing in AI technology capable of modelling and predicting critical infrastructure outages or impacts, must be a core priority of this government's resilience agenda.

Whilst Optus and DP World will have questions to answer, they will not be the last businesses hit with downtime, but they should be another catalyst for an advanced, analytically informed, nationally integrated approach to critical infrastructure risk management.

The next time is coming, let's be ready as a nation.

Alison Howe is the chief executive officer of the National Institute of Strategic Resilience.



for land and resources in nations now facing increased droughts and natural disasters, as well as the impact in neighbouring countries of dealing with displaced populations. By far the greatest proportion of refugees want to go home, if to a safe environment.

Politicians, on either side of the political sense, are right to appreciate that absorbing significant refugee populations, arriving in an uncontrolled manner (if more usually by air than by boat), is stressing local resources and alienating voters.

But the statesman or woman does not pander to such hostilities by stirring up more trouble for them, including incidents where they are bullied and brutalised by hostile crowds and demagogues, or repelled by force to miserable conditions without access to food, shelter, or protection of families from exploitation and discrimination.

Drastic solutions don't work. They make problems worse

If statesmen are determined to limit the intakes of refugees, or immigrants generally, they will focus on programs that make flight less urgent, and conflict less likely. Foreign aid, peacekeeping and cross-border opportunities for work with dignity can make peace more likely and help deal with the consequences of disaster and oppression. Money spent on the provision of health, education, and welfare in orderly camps adjacent to nations generating refugees can prove to be a fraction of the cost of coping with desperate people at a nation's front door. Involvement with international organisations dealing with refugee groups assists developing organised programs for more local solutions - solutions most refugees want more fervently than resettlement far away.

Some of the more shameful Australian politicians dealing with asylum seekers have resisted attempts to "humanise" their plight and problems, if only because the natural sympathies and hospitality of many Australians may compromise their efforts to treat them as an amorphous, irritating and demanding mass.

A former minister for immigration,

Phillip Ruddock, a self-proclaimed proud member of Amnesty, once mocked refugees from the old Yugoslavia for demanding soap at temporary shelter at the Singleton army camp. He was pandering to the idea that asylum seekers must be starving and entirely without resources, indigent and ignorant, as well as abjectly grateful. Yet many modern refugees have been well-educated professionals, or people immediately able, with assistance, to play important roles in our economy and society. They deserve to be treated with dignity and respect, as well as empathy.

For some politicians, however, it is much more rewarding, in the short term at least, to deny any welcome, to admit only grudgingly and conditionally, and to demonise them as groups as the other, the alien, the troublemakers, the potential danger. The risk of terrorism. Or crime. Or disease. Or domination by "foreign" creeds or ideologies. Or child sex abuse.

A good many Labor politicians and public policy makers are well informed about the issues, and, in private, scathing about the way the issues are exploited by demagogues and populists. But they lack the courage for a fully committed fight with those who are exploiting hatred and a sense of crisis for political gain. It's not, they judge, politically safe. Indeed, they may not even win. Perhaps the population is too invincibly prejudiced or susceptible to manipulation. Look, after all, at the Voice debate where most of the population rejected a harmless measure they had been told was good for them. Politicians do not, in short, trust the common sense of the public. Or its decency if they are brought in on the argument rather than told what to think.

The public does not deserve the suits and party hacks being served up by the professional political parties. It deserves people of passion. Of courage. Of experience and common sense. With independent minds. Leaders who won't lead do not attract followers.

Jack Waterford is a former editor of The Canberra Times. jwaterfordcanberra@gmail.com

Superannuation failing too many

A holistic view of the retirement system eludes us yet again as the loudest voices stall any changes.

SIMON
COWAN



THE government seems to be moving closer to a policy of using superannuation savings to partially pay for the forthcoming massive increase in aged care spending.

While no details have been provided yet, there are several ways this policy could be achieved. Hopefully, Labor will focus on incentivising people to save for aged care - rather than confiscating or increasing taxes on super to achieve this outcome.

After all, using super for aged care makes a lot of sense: superannuation funds retirement, and aged care is an expense mostly incurred by retirees. It is also undeniable the government has funded the bulk of the increase in aged care expenditure in recent years, not the users.

It would not be fair for younger taxpayers to stump up even more money to fund retirement expenses when a system already exists to pay for retirement.

But this policy highlights several other flaws in the superannuation system that could be addressed at the same time.

The first is inconsistency in what insurance can be obtained within super. Currently, many people have access to income protection insurance, TPD and life insurance through super; although it is worth noting historically not all policies offered have been good value for money.

However, while some super funds have partnerships with health insurance providers, private health insurance cannot be paid for through superannuation. This makes little sense.

Although private health insurance is not a retirement expense per se, neither is income protection insurance. You might argue TPD and income protection insurance safeguard against circumstances of need where people might otherwise drain their super - but the same is true for medical expenses.

Private health insurance also provides a greater benefit to those in, or approaching, retirement.

The entire rationale for the government's Lifetime Health Cover (LHC) loading, which penalises people for not having private health insurance before the age of 31, is to bring a younger cohort into the system to balance the costs against the main health system users: older Australians.

There are added benefits for the government as well. Currently the government provides a separate incentive regime to take out private health insurance. Allowing people to use concessionally-taxed superannuation to purchase private health cover incorporates its own incentive; saving taxpayers money.

Cynically, it might also encourage competition: super funds and health insurers would be effectively competing for the same pot of funds.

It would also provide a significant assistance to those struggling with the cost-of-living surge, or others for whom private health insurance would be beneficial but may be too expensive. Paying for it through super would alleviate the need to front-up cash for premiums.



Labor should focus on incentivising people to save for aged care. Picture Shutterstock

These inconsistencies in insurance while in accumulation also feed into another flaw in the system. Too little policy time and effort has actually been focused on the supposed goal of the super system: maximising living standards in retirement.

In fact, to the extent the issue of living standards is considered, it is usually from the perspective of maximising super balances at the point of retirement. But that lens is superficial at best, and misleading at worst. It would be like awarding the winner of a race based on how they approached the start line. Aged care is not the only major expense in retirement. Those in, or nearing, retirement should be incentivised to investigate alternative products that could boost living standards. For example, shared equity release schemes for home owners or longevity insurance, both of which are available overseas.

But these products have little or no market in Australia. Why?

One big problem is the components of the retirement income sector don't work well together. The social security settings actively discourage any kind of innovation that might jeopardise access to the age pension.

Despite a strong desire among retirees to age in place, releasing equity from your

home exposes it to the pension eligibility tests (although some policies that have sought to exempt these proceeds at times).

Meanwhile, our planning system prevents the construction of age-appropriate housing in the communities where these retirees live, and our tax system whacks downsizers with a huge stamp duty bill when purchasing a new residence.

A holistic view of the retirement system eludes us time and time again.

For many retirees, the pension forms not only a safety net but a ready stream of liquidity to meet living expenses.

For many retirees, the pension forms not only a safety net but a ready stream of liquidity to meet living expenses; enabling them to grow their equity in their home over their retirement.

While no one would argue the age pension represents a glamorous or luxurious lifestyle, it does provide an adequate standard of living for many.

In addition, because it is indexed to inflation and wages, it immunises pensioners against rising cost-of-living pressures.

But why would Australia tolerate the imposition of such a paternalistic, intrusive scheme as compulsory superannuation to then willingly accept most will just default to the mediocrity of the pension?

If superannuation is not boosting living standards in retirement - even if only because people are choosing not to use it that way - the system has no purpose at all.

Ultimately, the bulk of the problems and limitations in the superannuation system arise because the loudest voices in the debate have been the funds and the 'ever-more-revenue' crowd.

Though the government is unlikely to listen, given they are largely in thrall to the industry super funds, a debate over the use of super for age care will allow us to reopen the discussion on the efficiency of the super system as a whole. And that is an opportunity worth seizing.

■ Simon Cowan is research director at the Centre for Independent Studies.

WORLD Aid programs desperate as need hits new peak

Who's doing heavy lifting in refugee crisis?

PETER
SHERGOLD



AS THE crow flies, it's 12,684 kilometres from Sydney to the arid plains of Kakuma refugee camp in Kenya.

Given the vast distance from here to there, most of us don't spend much time thinking about what life might be like there. And yet what is happening in places like Kakuma is highly relevant to us in Australia.

It is developing countries like Kenya and neighbouring Uganda that are doing the heavy lifting when it comes to looking after displaced people, fleeing famine and violence.

It's a responsibility that must be shared more equitably around the world.

Consider this: In 1990, Kakuma had a population of 8000. Most were Turkana people, semi-nomadic pastoralists. Today it's home to more than 250,000 refugees and asylum seekers. In total, Kenya hosts more than half a million refugees; Uganda hosts more than 1.5 million. Most are from South Sudan, Somalia, Ethiopia, Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Supporting these people is a burden that no nation, especially a developing, low-income country should have to shoulder alone.

I recently visited refugee camps in Uganda and Kenya in my role as Chair of Australia for UNHCR. The hardship faced by many refugees is gut wrenching. Their extraordinary resilience is inspiring.

In Uganda, I met a 76-year-old woman called Evasita. Last year she fled her home in the Democratic Republic of the Congo after an armed gang bludgeoned her adult children to death.

Evasita managed to escape with her two grandchildren, aged eight and 16. They are now living in a tent in a Ugandan refugee settlement called Rwamwanja.

Evasita rises early to get her grandchildren to school and then tends a tiny plot of land in the afternoon in return for a dollar or two, her only source of income.

Evasita has nowhere to go and no other options. As I talked to her it was apparent that she worries deeply about how long she can continue working and taking care of her grandchildren.

If the UN Refugee Agency hadn't provided her with a tent and a few other essentials, she would have nothing.



Peter Shergold talking with refugees in Kenya. Picture supplied

More than 114 million people are currently displaced around the world - the highest number in history. Conflicts continue, as they always have, but now we must also contend with climate change.

While some refugees would like to move to Australia or Europe, their chances are minuscule. Less than 1 per cent of refugees are relocated to a third country for resettlement.

But here's the thing: most of them don't want to come to us; they simply want to go home. It's a desire that remains elusive for many. I met people who had lived in the same refugee camp for almost 20 years

because it is still not safe to return home.

More than 114 million people are currently displaced around the world - the highest number in history.

Conflicts continue, as they always have, but now we must also contend with climate change. In the Horn of Africa, the worst drought in 40 years has pushed large numbers of people to the brink of famine.

The sad reality is that aid programs around the world are underfunded and struggling to meet the complex and ever-increasing need.

In the camps I visited, the World Food Programme has had to cut food rations. People are hungry. They are desperate.

Visiting UNHCR's work in Kenya and Uganda gave me fresh insights into how important the charity dollar has become in dealing with displacement. It is imperative that governments make their contributions to UNHCR, but it's simply not enough.

Around the world, we all need to contribute more, particularly those of us living in wealthy countries. This includes businesses and wealthy philanthropists as well as the thousands of ordinary people who care

enough to donate.

The Global Refugee Forum will be held in Geneva next month. It will be a chance for governments, civil society and the private sector to build on the pledges and contributions they made at the first Forum in 2019.

This is all about responsibility sharing - recognising that a sustainable solution to refugee situations cannot be achieved without international co-operation.

Much depends on people who share a sense of humanitarian responsibility for others who have lost everything.

I've seen where the money goes: it pays teachers to educate bright young minds; it provides basic medical care; it allows people to grow their own food on bite-sized pieces of arable land; it supports livelihood programs; and it provides cash assistance so that refugees have the dignity to make their own choices about where to spend their money.

|| Professor Peter Shergold is the chair of Australia for UNHCR. He was secretary of the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet and was recently appointed emeritus professor of UNSW.

A.C.T. POLITICS How to respond when politicians are held to a different standard?

Assembly shockwave that prompted serious introspection

|| From Page 47

It is a Commonwealth offence for a person to transmit, access or solicit child abuse material of a child aged under 18.

The law defines child abuse material to include depictions of a person under 18 engaged in an offensive sexual pose, or which depicts a sexual organ of a person aged under 18 for a sexual purpose "in a manner which reasonable persons would regard as being, in all the circumstances, offensive".

Mr Rattenbury on Monday said the party was aware of the claims intimate images had been shared with Mr Davis by the young person.

"We considered the legislation, certainly

ACT law. We were not able to identify any offences, but again, acknowledging the complexity of the matter and particularly the suggestion of the sharing of intimate images, that was another reason we felt it was appropriate and important to report these matters to ACT Policing," he said.

Crossing the threshold

A criminal finding may never be made against Mr Davis; no complaint has been made to police. A level of discomfort, among rank-and-file Greens members and others, has emerged over Mr Davis' rapid resignation. Whatever happened to the presumption of innocence until proven guilty?

Politicians are held to a different standard. Mr Rattenbury on Wednesday said he thought Mr Davis was right to resign and that he did not have a future in politics.

Community expectations demand politicians act sooner than waiting for a criminal finding. This comes as no surprise to the politicians, who know the deal from the time they get themselves on a ballot paper.

All three parties in the Assembly were clear: Mr Davis' position had become untenable. Labor said so immediately after the allegations were made public. The Greens have never suggested otherwise.

The great challenge for parliaments in responding to harassment, inappropriate

behaviour and allegations is finding a way to manage what are non-political issues in a highly political environment.

A complaint - let alone a finding - has significant political import. The response system must be robust and operate beyond politics but remain alert to political fallout. No one says this is easy to get right.

An inquiry into the Greens' handling of the allegations will provide more useful detail about the decisions taken. It's the right thing to do. Done well, it could make suggestions for Assembly wide improvements.

But that still won't heal all the wounds of the Legislative Assembly's most bruising week.

EDITORIAL

US-China relationship vital to Australia

ALTHOUGH much has been made of President Joe Biden's description of President Xi Jinping as a dictator on Thursday, it was not a gaffe and will not affect the bilateral relationship between the two nations.

The President gave an honest answer to what was a legitimate question given he used the term to describe President Xi's position earlier this year.

To have walked that back would have been seen as a sign of weakness and brought down a torrent of criticism on his head.

It would have also been counterproductive given it was apparent that during the meeting with President Xi President Biden did not hesitate to touch on sensitive issues or to champion the interests of America and the West.

He is pursuing the approach, demonstrated by Anthony Albanese, that when it comes to China, Western nations should co-operate where they can, disagree where they must and never lose sight of their own interests.

President Biden has added "trust but verify" to that mantra. He also noted the resolute position adopted by Australia and other nations had played a role in bringing China back to the table.

Asked if he had warned President Xi about ramped-up military activity in the South Chi-

The Canberra Times

TO SERVE THE NATIONAL CITY
AND THROUGH IT THE NATION

As the saying goes, 'when elephants fight the grass gets trampled'.

na Sea, Mr Biden said: "You may recall I did a few little things like getting the Quad together, allow[ing] Australia to have access to new submarines [and] moving in the direction of working with the Philippines ... our actions speak louder than our words. He [Xi] fully understands."

President Xi, for his part, made it clear China has suffered as a result of the deterioration in relations with the West brought about, in

large part, by its aggressive push to create a regional hegemony.

"The China-US relationship ... is the most important bilateral relationship in the world," he said. "For two large countries like China and the United States turning their back on each other is not an option ... Planet Earth is big enough for the two countries to succeed, and one country's success is an opportunity for the other."

This remarkable change of tone was reflected in actions as well as words with both leaders agreeing that "either one of us could pick up the phone, call directly and be heard immediately".

Of equal significance is the news the US and China are resuming direct military-to-military contact. This, along with the ability for the two leaders to speak directly,

will play an important role in stopping misunderstandings and accidents escalating into crises and possible conflict.

As Winston Churchill famously said many years ago: "Jaw, jaw is better than war, war."

While President Biden reaffirmed America's position on "one China" he did caution Beijing against trying to interfere in the forthcoming Taiwanese election.

He also stressed the US remained in strategic and commercial competition with China but that must be managed so as to ensure competition did not "veer into conflict".

The success of the meeting, which follows Anthony Albanese's China visit last week, is of vital importance to Australia.

America is our closest ally and a key strategic player in the region. China, on the other hand, is our largest trading partner.

It is very much in this country's interest for the two superpowers to play nicely together. A conflict between them would have devastating consequences for Australia.

As the saying goes, "when elephants fight the grass gets trampled".

While nobody is talking about peace at any price, the reduction in the temperature of the US-China relationship is a hopeful sign the war so many have said is inevitable can be avoided.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Zed Seselja has abandoned Canberra but we will survive

I, LIKE thousands of Canberrans, am pondering what a Zed-free Canberra will be like. I am also wondering whether we can survive without him. According to *The Canberra Times* he is moving to regional NSW, leaving the ACT to struggle on without him.

Will we be able to cope without his regular input and his ongoing campaign to deny us our territory rights? Zed has turned his back on the territory for a NSW Senate bid. Oh the horror.

He has promised to "fight the woke indoctrination of our kids". Is he referring to religion? He has also promised to fight cancel culture. The words "woke" and "cancel culture" are completely meaningless. They are used by people on the right as buzz words to get a reaction.

One could argue that Mr Seselja's ideology is a bigger concern in terms of indoctrinating people.

Now that Zed is leaving the fine people of the ACT to fend for themselves it's time to assess his contribution. He fought for over a decade to deny the people of the ACT territory rights and continually ignored what the majority of ACT residents wanted.

He managed to lose a Senate seat for the Liberal Party thanks to his divisive politics. In spite of his views being completely out of touch with Canberrans he has maintained them.

If he fails to win a NSW Senate seat is he going to do a lap of the country moving from state to state? We will survive.

Peter McLoughlin, Monash

Libs should modernise

Now Zed is leaving Canberra I hope that he will also exit the Canberra political scene and the Canberra Liberals. This would allow them to rebrand themselves.

Don Sephton, Greenway

Try and try again

Goodbye Zed. I hope you find the good burghers of NSW more accommodating than we were.

Graeme Rankin, Holder

A question

Zed who?

Neil Kinsella, Fadden

No regrets

Goodbye Zed. Don't hurry back.

Ed Highley, Kambah

Not that simple

Roderick Holesgrove favours a one-state solution for Israel and the Palestinians (Letters, November 17).

He states that under the Ottoman Empire Jews, Palestinians and others lived in harmony.

The world has changed. Can Mr Holesgrove explain how harmony and a one-state solution could now work bearing in mind that the Hamas covenant calls for the killing of all the Jews.

Does Mr Holesgrove envisage the prior elimination of Hamas? Or can it be that Mr Holesgrove envisages a one-state solution only after all the Jews have been killed?

Ernst Willheim, Campbell

Judaism not just a religion

Rozita Abdul purports to tell us how Judaism and Zionism are or aren't related (Letters, November 16). It is true, as she says, that valid criticism of Zionist policies is not anti-Semitism. However, denying the Jewish right to self-determination by delegitimising Israel's existence, or holding the Jewish state to different standards to any other state, can be anti-Semitic.

Contrary to Rozita's claims, Judaism is

about more than following the religious beliefs.

Jews are a people or nation as well as a religion. A Jewish person can be completely secular, but still be completely part of the Jewish people.

She also claims prominent rabbis see Zionism and Judaism as enemies. A tiny number of extremist rabbis do feel that way because they say Israel should only exist once the Messiah comes.

However, for the overwhelming majority of Jews, Zionism and Israel are an important part of their Jewish and, if applicable, religious identity. Jerusalem is constantly mentioned in Jewish prayers.

Brian Wimborne, Isaacs



Zed Seselja is leaving Canberra to take a tilt at a NSW Senate seat.
Picture by James Croucher

Too many people

The ongoing housing crisis has spawned many media articles with nearly all arguing that the crisis was the result of a supply problem and all we had to do was build more houses.

However, Leith van Onselen, the chief economist at the Macquarie Bank, has provided a more realistic view pointing out that in the last financial year our population growth was around 630,000 due to high immigration but we only built 170,000 homes.

What is worse the construction rate is falling as building firms go bust and material and land costs explode.

But even this doesn't give the full picture because the construction rate does not

POPE'S VIEW

FINDING AN ALTERNATIVE TO INDEFINITE IMMIGRATION DETENTION...



The best ideas I've heard for addressing the issues facing Indigenous communities are coming from the Indigenous people themselves.

Keith Hill, Canberra City

include the impact of house demolitions which were 114,323 in the five-year period up to 2021.

There have also been 134,000 homes damaged by weather events in 2020 including 5303 destroyed in NSW alone and this toll is likely to increase as weather events intensify.

There is a very real prospect that regions of Australia - even some cities - will become uninhabitable due to water shortages. Cities such as Darwin, Broome and Port Headland may exceed liveable temperatures.

This would create a surge of internal climate refugees seeking homes in localities already short of housing.

Don Owers, Dudley, NSW

What's in a name?

For some time I have been pondering the meaning of the word "conservative".

With my medical background, it means to do the least possible harm.

For example, if a patient presents with an infected toe, you don't cut his leg off, you treat it with antibiotics and antiseptics.

In politics, however, it seems to mean an attempt to move as close to the 19th century class structure as possible, reversing all the social achievements of the 20th and 21st centuries.

How did this change of meaning come about?

Stewart Bath, Isabella Plains

Canberrans were right

Nigh on 60 years in the territory seems to have muddled Andrew Blair's thinking (Letters, November 17) if he thinks most Canberrans do little work for rich rewards (definition of sinecure) with direct access to politicians

who obviously give us a false idea about what life is like in their electorates.

I could ask "whose fault is that?" as I often do when faced with the same level of ignorance on my travels around the country, adding "you helped send those people here to make the laws you don't like and waste your taxpayer dollars. Try sending someone different."

But the real issue is not so much the ignorance about Canberra of people like Andrew Blair but rather their ignorance about their own backyard. Of course they'll tell you they know many good Indigenous folk (that's always an alarm bell) but their problem solving far too often consists of sitting around with those just like themselves and then coming up with the solutions they would impose.

Hence we had those now discredited failed policies like the ones that led to the Stolen Generation and the intervention. I get the impression that Mr Blair might welcome a return to one or both of those misadventures.

Travelling across the far north from Broome and Derby in the west to Alice Springs in the centre and most of far north Queensland, my greatest take away has been that the best ideas I've heard for addressing the issues facing the Indigenous communities are coming from the Indigenous people

themselves. Most of the worst came from intolerant old white folk. That's why I voted "yes" to the Voice.

Keith Hill, Canberra City

Andrew Blair is wrong

Andrew Blair (Letters, November 17) got it wrong voting "no" (as did most Australians). Suggesting people in the ACT don't live in the real world is nonsense.

I grew up in rural NSW with an Aboriginal mission and a migrant hostel nearby.

I witnessed the systematic discrimination against Aboriginals and to a lesser extent new Australians. They were referred to in the most offensive terms.

Mr Blair is right to say billions have been spent to no effect but that is exactly why the Voice was needed.

I don't doubt Mr Blair's intentions or those of governments; however, I was reminded recently that the road to hell is paved with good intentions.

Aboriginal people know best how to close the gap and the Voice would have given them some responsibility for and ownership of the process. Dictatorial and punitive policies just don't work.

David Groube, Guerilla Bay, NSW

Real reason for rail

The many letter-writers to your paper should understand that there was a cost consideration to the government's decision to choose rail over electric buses. They knew that, with the deplorable state of our roads, buses would be shaken apart in next to no time.

Brian Smith, Conder

HAVE YOUR SAY

Letters to the Editor should be kept to 250 or fewer words. To the Point letters should not exceed 50 words. Reference to *The Canberra Times* reports should include date and page number. Provide a phone number and address (only your suburb will be published). Email letters.editor@canberratimes.com.au with your letter in the message field.

Responsibility for election comment is taken by John-Paul Moloney of 121 Marcus Clarke Street, Canberra. Published by Federal Capital Press of Australia Pty Ltd.

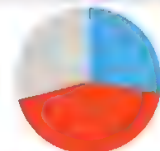
INSIDER READERS PANEL

We've started a panel of readers who give us feedback each week. To join go to: www.canberratimes.com.au/times-readers-panel

TOTAL RESPONDENTS FOR EACH QUESTION: 598 (percentages have been rounded)

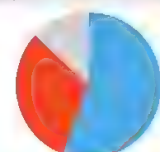
Do you think the ACT Greens have handled allegations against Johnathan Davis appropriately?

Yes 28%
No 43%
Unsure 29%



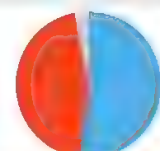
Is a 120 sqm house big enough to raise an average Canberra family?

Yes 56%
No 31%
Unsure 13%



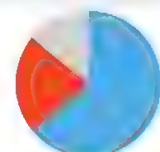
Have you or someone you know fallen victim to a cybercrime?

Yes 52%
No 45%
Unsure 3%



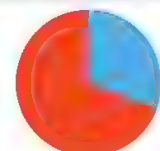
Should workers be allowed to continue regularly working from home now the COVID pandemic is over?

Yes 64%
No 22%
Unsure 14%



Were you impacted by Optus's network outage last week?

Yes 31%
No 69%



WHAT YOU SAID

The Greens have not handled any of it at all well, which is a concern especially given their leader is the Attorney-General.

Mr Rattenbury no apology to Brindabella voters and only concerned about political manoeuvring.

So consensual sex between individuals of a legal age is no longer allowed for some politicians. What a beat up.

He was, rightly, exited very quickly. All the noise from Labor and the Libs is just playing politics in the hope of electoral advantage.

A "house" of 120 sqm is only big enough if it is a house with garden and not an apartment.

What is an average Canberra family?

The rest of the world manages without giant Aussie houses.

The size of your house depends on the size of your television screen.

The COVID pandemic is not over!!

Work is for work; home is for home. Working from home should be by exception.

Why does the CEO of Optus sit on other boards? 100% of a CEO's focus should be on their job.

Convenient how Optus managed to distribute their payment reminder, right before the outage.

Labor is vulnerable on both sides



MICHELLE
GRATTAN

IT'S not very often we see a bill marched through parliament at such a pace as this week.

After being caught on the hop by the High Court, the government has brought in emergency legislation to strengthen its powers to control more than 80 people, some of them serious criminals, it has been forced to release from immigration detention. The bill was introduced in the lower house on Thursday morning and passed the parliament Thursday night.

Those of an irreverent turn of mind might recall Scott Morrison's Great Strawberry Crisis of September 2018, when a bill was also raced through in a day.

Both the strawberry bill and this one were enacted in the name of "keeping the community safe".

The strawberry exercise, following the discovery of needles in some fruit, was an obvious political stunt. This week's legislation goes to a serious matter, although there's dispute about the threat to community safety, given the risks posed by these people aren't greater than those presented by local criminals who leave jail. The difference is these are non-citizens.

The High Court isn't usually front and centre in politics. But when it is, it can land sharp punches that throw governments off balance. The Albanese government always knew the court might rule, as it did last week, that people can't be held indefinitely in immigration detention. But on the basis of its past record, the odds seemed against it doing so.

The Coalition says the government failed to take into account a hint months ago from one judge. Certainly the government wasn't as prepared as it should have been when the decision came. It initially concentrated on putting conditions into people's visas and making sure security and law enforcement authorities were prepared.

It was quickly obvious, however, that a robust response would be required. Regardless of the logic, the argument that these people pose no more danger than do post-sentence Australians wouldn't wash. This was especially obvious when media stories appeared about frightened victims.

The government's situation was complicated by the court's delay in providing reasons for its decision. The explanation of the court's action is that this was a habeas corpus case, so the court's first duty was to the individual at the centre of it. That meant when it decided the man should be released, it had an obligation to say so immediately.

Immigration Minister Andrew Giles visibly struggled under the Coalition's attack in parliament. The optics weren't helped by the departure of Anthony Albanese late Wednesday for the APEC meeting in the United States. It's been reported this was a trip the PM would have preferred to miss, but felt obliged to make because Joe Biden expected him there.

The High Court decision affected immediately more than 90 people, a number of

whom had been convicted of major crimes including murder and rape. More than 80 have been released. The total number potentially involved could run into the hundreds.

The government kept repeating it had no choice but to let the detainees out at once. Minister for Home Affairs Clare O'Neil said, "If I had any legal power to do it, I would keep every one of those people in detention. Some of those people have committed deplorable, disgusting crimes. I am raising three children in this country, and I want a safe Australia."

The emergency legislation, ticked off by a special caucus meeting, meant the Commonwealth could deploy ankle monitoring bracelets and impose curfews.

There was a catch-22 in the powers the government previously had. If a person breached their visa obligations, they could be sent to immigration detention - but after the court judgement, that penalty was no longer available. This made legislation necessary, so people could be jailed.

The government rushed the bill through the House of Representatives on Thursday morning in about an hour, without allowing the opposition to move amendments.

The Coalition prepared several amendments, substantially broadening the restrictions, to pursue in the Senate. But, anxious to lower the temperature, speed the bill's passage, and get the issue off the table, acting Prime Minister Richard Marles approached Opposition leader Peter Dutton. Marles and other ministers met Dutton in Marles' office, and the government agreed to all the opposition amendments. They included mandatory minimum sentencing for visa breaches - which is inconsistent with Labor's platform. It's understood Albanese was kept abreast of things.

The legislation may be stopgap because, without the court's reasons the government is working, to a degree, in the dark. More legislation could be needed next year.

The Greens have denounced the extra controls. The Greens' Nick McKim told the Senate: "Make no mistake, this is Prime Minister Albanese's Tampa moment and history will condemn him for this, just as it condemned Mr Howard and Mr Beazley over 20 years ago." This was a reference to Coalition legislation for a drastic response to the asylum seekers on the Tampa.

McKim accused Labor of "an abject cra-

ven capitulation by a party that has forgotten where it came from, and forgotten what it used to stand for." He predicted a High Court challenge to the legislation.

David Manne, executive director of Refugee Legal, says a challenge is "absolutely" possible. He says the new law confers "extraordinary powers" that are beyond necessity and proportionality.

Manne says the controls imposed could involve another deprivation of a person's liberty, when the High Court has just ruled against the deprivation of their liberty.

In crude political terms, Labor knows it is always potentially vulnerable on issues involving asylum seekers and refugees. That vulnerability is on two flanks. The Coalition will exploit any situation to paint Labor as weak. The Greens will cast Labor as heartless.

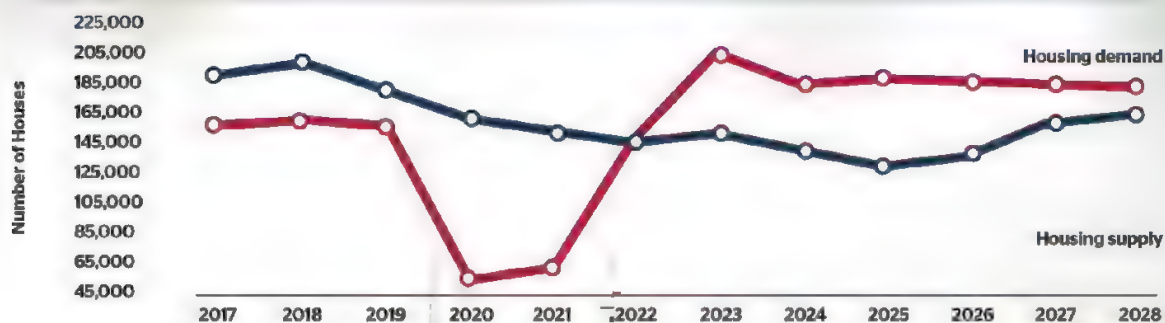
The government hopes the legislation provides the necessary belt and braces to send the community the message that, despite initial fumbling, it is in control of this unexpected situation.

Michelle Grattan writes for The Conversation where her columns also appear.



Australian Immigration Minister Andrew Giles during question time on Thursday. Picture AAP

Housing supply shortfall due to migration expansion



Source: Institute of Public Affairs



We need to find a way to bring international student numbers under control to help ensure we have enough housing. Picture Shutterstock

Solution looks so simple. It's not

Even advocates of a larger Australian population should favour a dip in immigration.



WE DON'T have enough homes, rents are too high, and the solution looks simple: cut immigration for a while, to let the building industry catch up.

If only it were so simple.

For we do not actually have anything like tight control on immigration numbers, even though the main political parties are always keen to create an impression that we do.

A net total of 500,000 people have poured in over the past year, not counting tourists, compared with 240,000 in 2018-19, the last year unaffected by the pandemic.

For advocates of a larger population, such as this column, the thundering pace of arrivals should be joyful news. It's not. Housing in this country is costing far too much.

Also, if we do not bring immigration down for a few years, Australians, especially younger ones who rent, will learn to loathe it. Maintaining powerful long-term population growth would then become politically impossible.

In June, the Institute of Public Affairs forecast that we'd need 45,200 extra homes this year to accommodate natural population growth and 160,000 more for immigrants. But we were likely to build only 148,500 homes, the think tank found.

We don't have enough construction workers, materials are costly, and anti-development nimbies have been running wild, especially in NSW.

So the institute forecast a shortfall of 56,700 homes, with a similar degree of under-supply in the following three years. Actually, it's turning out to be worse than

that, because the immigration flow is stronger than the institute assumed.

Meanwhile, September-quarter rents were 7.6 per cent higher than a year earlier, and Reserve Bank governor Michelle Bullock expects annual rises to hit 10 per cent, far above general inflation and even further above wage rises. So, yes, the housing crisis will get even worse.

So, let's restrict immigration for a few years. But how?

The great bulk of the inward flow of people is feeding the education sector with students, so that's where most of the solution should be. Yet the government hardly controls student visa numbers. If someone with enough money wants to come here for education, and if a university or other school issues a certificate of enrolment, a student visa generally follows.

Brendan Coates, economic policy program director of the Grattan Institute, another think tank, suggests the simple measure of increasing the \$710 application fee for the visa. Doubling it would reduce foreign demand for Australian education (not much, I think) and, more importantly, pay for a 10 per cent increase in rent assistance for eligible Australians, he calculates.

It's a good idea, but long-term support for immigration would still suffer the political damage of frequent media reports about population driving up rents.

Probably more effective would be excluding some of our education sector's junkie courses from eligibility for visas, another suggestion from Coates. Some of those courses seem to be basically conduits for immigration, which would be fine if they delivered highly qualified immigrants - but they generally don't.

And the Grattan Institute has previously

The great bulk of the inward flow of people is feeding the education sector with students, so that's where most of the solution should be.

suggested getting tough with international students who have already graduated but are failing to develop careers here while lingering on visas that are too readily extended. We need to start telling them it's time to go home.

Handing out plenty of working-holiday visas sounds like a good idea, since we need more workers. But the long stays in Australia by those visa holders are less about working than holidaying. For a while, we should accept fewer of them.

Maybe the measure we really need to take is to get actual control of student numbers, by setting an annual quota - something not advocated by the Grattan Institute. Again, it's one of those ideas that sounds simple but is actually hard to put into operation. How many students would be allocated to each university or other school, and on what basis?

Notice that the best foreign students overwhelmingly want to study at our most highly rated universities, half of which are in Melbourne and Sydney, the cities that are suffering most from population growth.

While immigration is the main problem in housing demand, it can also be part of

the solution for supply. The Master Builders Association has urged the government to remove obstacles to bringing in skilled workers, which would mean more foreigners enjoying good wages on Australian construction sites, building those homes we need.

The association calls for a simpler visa system with lower costs and quicker processing, plus the inducement of easier pathways to permanent residency. Language requirements for some skilled workers should be lowered, the association says, noting that a tradesperson is currently required to have the same English skills as a journalist.

It also wants the government to start creating an apprenticeship visa. Actually, it's inexplicable that we have no visa that allows foreigners to do apprenticeships here. We've known for years that not enough Australians are interested in trades.

We can also increase supply of housing by redirecting construction capacity towards it. The painful conclusion is that we need to cut infrastructure spending for a while.

Infrastructure, especially for transportation, is always thought to be inadequate, so calling for less spending on it seems sacrilegious. But Australians need homes before they need better roads.

So the federal government's axing of 50 infrastructure projects this week will not only save money; to the extent that some of that construction would have begun soon, workers, managers and equipment will now be diverted to building bungalows or, better, townhouses and flats.

We can get back to the job of catching up on infrastructure later - after we've caught up on housing supply.

Bradley Perrett was based in Beijing as a journalist from 2004 to 2020.

WORLD

Canadian found guilty of Muslim murders

Ottawa

A 22-YEAR-OLD self-confessed Canadian white nationalist who deliberately ran over and killed four members of a Muslim family in his truck two years ago has been found guilty of first degree murder.

The killings shocked Canada, a country that encourages mass immigration and takes pride in its multiculturalism.

The jury took about six hours on Thursday to convict Nathaniel Veltman, who attacked the family in the Ontario town of London. He faces life imprisonment with no chance of parole for 25 years.

Prosecutors argued the attack was an act of terrorism, noting Veltman had written a manifesto entitled "A White Awakening" in which he outlined hatred of Islam and opposition to mass immigration and multiculturalism.

Five members of the Afzaal family were out for an evening walk in June 2021 when Veltman ran over them with his truck on the sidewalk.

The victims were Salman Afzaal, 46, his wife Madiha Salman, 44, their 15-year-old daughter Yumnah, and Afzaal's 74-year-old mother Talat.

The couple's nine-year-old son suffered serious injuries. Veltman, who shortly after the assault admitted "I did it. I killed those people," was also found guilty of one charge of attempted murder.

"The verdict is a monumental step in the fight against Islamophobia. It sets a precedent against white nationalist terrorism," said Abdul Fattah Twakkal of the London Muslim Mosque.



Benjamin Netanyahu told CBS that Israel had tried to keep Gaza civilians safe but were 'not successful'. Picture AP

Gaza civilian safety 'not successful'

Gaza

ISRAEL is doing all it can to get civilians out of harm's way as it battles Hamas in Gaza, including dropping leaflets warning them to flee, but its attempts to minimise casualties were "not successful", Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has said.

Netanyahu was asked by US television's CBS News whether Israel's killing of thousands of Palestinians as it retaliates for the October 7 attack by Gaza's ruling Hamas militants would fuel a new generation of hatred.

"Any civilian death is a tragedy. And we shouldn't have any because we're doing everything we can to get the civilians out of harm's way, while Hamas is doing everything to keep them

So we send leaflets, (we) call them on their mobile phones, and we say: 'leave'.

Benjamin Netanyahu

in harm's way," Netanyahu said.

"So we send leaflets, (we) call them on their mobile phones, and we say: 'leave'. And many have left," Netanyahu said.

Israel has said the goal of its military campaign is to destroy Hamas.

"The other thing that I can say is that we'll try to finish that job with minimal civilian casualties. That's what we're trying to do: minimal civilian casualties. But unfortunately,

we're not successful."

Palestinian civilians have borne the brunt of Israel's weeks-long military campaign in response to the attack by Hamas that Israel says killed 1200 people, mostly civilians. Hamas also took about 240 people of different nationalities as hostages, according to Israel.

Gaza health authorities deemed reliable by the United Nations say at least 11,500 people have been confirmed killed in an Israeli

bombardment and ground invasion - more than 4700 of them children.

Two-thirds of the Gaza Strip's population of 2.3 million have been made homeless by the war. On Thursday, Israel's air force dropped leaflets in parts of south Gaza telling people to evacuate for their own safety.

Israel has also used leaflet drops in northern Gaza to warn civilians to move. Hundreds of thousands have done so, in a mass displacement that many Palestinians fear could become permanent.

Meanwhile, Israel's army says its soldiers have found a tunnel shaft used by Hamas militants at Gaza's Al Shifa hospital, releasing a video to back its claim, which has

been used to justify its action there.

The video, which Reuters could not immediately verify, showed a deep hole in the ground, littered with and surrounded by concrete and wood rubble and sand. It appeared the area had been excavated; a bulldozer appeared in the background.

In a statement late on Thursday Hamas said US claims it uses Al Shifa for military purposes are "a repetition of a blatantly false narrative".

White House spokesman John Kirby says the US is confident in an assessment from its own intelligence agencies on Hamas activities in Al Shifa hospital and will neither share nor elaborate on it.

New York appeals court judge pauses gag order in Trump case

New York

A NEW York appeals court judge has paused a gag order that had barred Donald Trump from speaking publicly about court staff amid the former US president's civil fraud trial.

Appeals court Justice David Friedman said the gag order would be temporarily lifted.

"Considering the constitutional and statutory rights at issue, an interim stay is granted," Friedman wrote in a filing on Thursday.

Trump's lawyers, who

are also subject to the gag order, argued he is entitled to speak publicly about the "perceived partisanship and bias" of the trial, where he faces hundreds of millions of dollars in penalties and a partial breakup of his real estate empire.

The judge overseeing the case, Justice Arthur Engoron, imposed the limited gag order on October 3 after Trump shared a post attacking his top clerk on social media. He has fined Trump \$A23,000 for twice violating the order.

Alina Habba, Trump's

lawyer, said in a statement that she was pleased to see the appellate court "restore some much needed respect for constitutional rights" in what she called a "political circus" orchestrated by New York Attorney-General Letitia James.

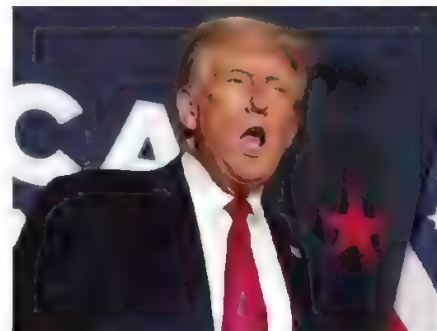
James' office did not seek the gag order, which Engoron imposed on his own initiative.

James, an elected Democrat, accuses Trump, his two adult sons and 10 of his businesses of inflating their assets by as much as

\$A3.4 billion to secure more favourable loan and insurance terms.

Engoron has already ruled that Trump provided lenders and insurers with fraudulent financial statements and ordered the dissolution of companies controlling his real estate empire. The order is on hold pending Trump's appeal.

The trial largely concerns damages. James is seeking at least \$A386 million in penalties and a New York commercial real estate ban against Trump.



A gag order imposed on Donald Trump after he disparaged court staff has been temporarily lifted. Picture AP

Thousands of Ukrainian children deported

Amsterdam

MORE than 2400 children between six and 17 years old have been taken to 13 facilities across Belarus since Russia's invasion of Ukraine, according to research published by Yale University.

Ukraine's prosecutor general said in May he was investigating the alleged role of Belarus in the forced transfer of more than 19,000 identified children from Russian-occupied territories since the conflict broke out, including to Russia.

The total number is estimated by some experts and organisations to be far higher.

The findings by the Humanitarian Research Lab at Yale School of Public Health, are the most extensive to date about the alleged role of Belarus in the Russian relocation program for Ukrainian children.

Russia has said previously it is offering humanitarian aid to those wishing to flee Ukraine voluntarily and rejects accusations of war crimes.

The press service of Russia's Children's Rights Com-

missioner, who oversees the relocation of children from occupied Ukraine, and Belarus' foreign ministry did not immediately respond to requests for comment on the research.



Yale University research implicates Belarus leader Alexander Lukashenko in the removal of some 2400 children from Ukraine. Picture AP

"These revelations of Belarusian involvement are part of a broader campaign directed by Russia," the US State Department said in a statement. "The United States will continue to

pursue accountability for actors involved in abuses connected with Russia's war against Ukraine."

Among the key findings detailed in the 39-page report were that children had been

transported from at least 17 cities in Ukraine's Donetsk, Luhansk, Kherson, and Zaporizhzhia regions in what Yale researchers described as an ongoing practice.

More than 2000 chil-

dren Yale identified were transported to the Dubrava children's centre in Belarus' Minsk region between September 2022 and May 2023, it said, while 392 children were taken to 12 other facilities.

"Russia's systematic effort to identify, collect, transport, and re-educate Ukraine's children has been facilitated by Belarus," the report said.

"Russia's federal government and Belarus' regime have been working together to coordinate and fund the movement of children from Russia-occupied Ukraine through Russia to Belarus."

Transports to Belarus through Russia were "ultimately coordinated" between Russian President Vladimir Putin and Belarus leader Alexander Lukashenko, it added.

The International Criminal Court has accused Putin and Children's Rights Commissioner Maria Lvova-Belova of deporting hundreds of children from Ukraine.

Taking children under the age of 18 across a border without the consent of a parent or guardian is prohibited under international law.

Drill bores deep into India tunnel

Lucknow

RESCUERS drilled deeper into the rubble of a collapsed road tunnel in northern India on Friday to fix wide pipes for 40 workers trapped underground for a sixth day to crawl to their freedom.

Drilling with a new machine started on Thursday and has covered a stretch of 24 metres so far, Devendra Patwal, a disaster management official, said.

It may require up to 60 meters (195 feet) to enable the trapped workers' escape, Patwal told The Associated Press on Friday.

Patwal said the rescuers hoped to complete the drilling by Friday night and create an escape tunnel of pipes welded together.

Some of the workers felt fever and body aches Wednesday, but there has been no deterioration in their condition, he said. Nuts, roasted chickpeas and medicine are being sent to them via a pipe every two hours.

The construction workers have been trapped since Sunday, when a landslide caused a portion of the 4.5km tunnel to collapse.

Santos won't go despite scathing report

Washington

EMBATTLED Republican US representative George Santos will not run for re-election following the release of a scathing report by fellow lawmakers that refers more "uncharged and unlawful conduct" for possible prosecution.

But the first-term congressman from New York said he would not resign even as a renewed effort to expel him from the House of Representatives gained steam.

Santos, 35, previously pleaded not guilty to federal charges of laundering campaign funds to pay for personal expenses and charging the credit cards of donors without permission, among other violations.

The House ethics committee's report, released on the same day Santos made his announcement, identified further questionable financial activity, prompting more of his fellow Republicans to urge expulsion.

"I will continue on my mission to serve my constituents up until I am allowed. I will however not be seeking re-election for a second term in 2024," Santos wrote on social media on Thursday.

"My family deserves better than to be under the gun from the press all the time."



George Santos sought to fraudulently exploit his candidacy for personal profit, a report found. Picture AP

My family deserves better than to be under the gun from the press all the time.

George Santos

Santos survived an expulsion vote on November 1.

The ethics panel's Republican chairman, Michael Guest, intends to file a fresh expulsion motion on Friday.

Santos came under scrutiny even before taking office in January after the New York Times and other media outlets reported he had fab-

ricated much of his life story while running for office.

Santos has dismissed complaints that he had lied about his education, work history and family as mere resume embellishment.

Two of his former aides already have pleaded guilty to campaign finance violations.

The committee's report

found Santos "sought to fraudulently exploit every aspect of his House candidacy for his own personal financial profit".

Santos charged \$A6,185 for spa treatments, including Botox, to his campaign account, the report says.

He also spent thousands of dollars at clothing and make-up stores, at OnlyFans - a website known for its sexual content - and for an Airbnb in the Hamptons area despite having no campaign business there. The panel recommended the allegations be referred to the Justice Department.

Kiwi 'circus' coalition talks drag on

Wellington

NEW Zealand coalition powerbroker Winston Peters says government formation talks are progressing and are "closer to the finish line" than many believe.

Mr Peters' NZ First is engaged in negotiations to form the next government with National and ACT, the three parties that will make up the next Kiwi government.

However, more than a month on from the October 14 election, the parties have yet to agree on the terms of their triumvirate.

The talks are playing out like a tiresome soap opera in New Zealand.

Each day, journalists wait outside hotels or in corridors where the leaders are meeting.

Photographers are stationed outside leaders' houses or in airports to track their movements.

And each time relevant MPs are spotted, they decline to answer questions of what's being discussed, out of respect to the sensitive negotiations. Saying talks would continue in Auckland over the weekend, Mr Peters did offer a hint of positivity.



An Israeli army officer gives journalists a tour of a tunnel allegedly used by Palestinian militants for cross-border attacks. Picture

Tunnels add complex layer to war

Clearing the tunnels is an important part of Israel's military campaign against Hamas in the Gaza Strip in response to the Palestinian militant group's deadly attack on southern Israel on October 7.

Dan Williams

Zeelim Ground Forces Base

AFTER locating what they described as the entrance to a Hamas tunnel under an evacuated hospital in northern Gaza, Israeli army engineers filled the passage with exploding gel and hit the detonator.

The blast engulfed the building and sent smoke spewing out of at least three points along a nearby road in a district of the city of Beit Hanoun, surveillance footage showed.

"The gel spread out and exploded whatever they had been waiting for us in the tunnel," an army officer told reporters at a briefing at Zeelim Ground Forces Base in southern Israel.

Clearing the tunnels is an important part of Israel's military campaign against Hamas in the Gaza Strip in response to the Palestinian militant group's deadly attack on southern Israel on October 7.

When not using munitions to map out the bunkers, access shafts and tunnels which both sides say run for hundreds of kilometres under Gaza, the army opts for tracker robots and other technology operated remotely.

The officer could not be identified under the rules of the briefing, and declined to provide further details of below-ground combat which he said was a work in progress. He did not name the hospital in Beit Hanoun.

"I think there are other methods being developed," he said.

"That is where creativity and innovation come in handy."

In Beit Hanoun, where his forces were operating, some gunmen had stormed the Israeli military from tunnel shafts and had been killed, he said. Israel's policy, he said, was not to send personnel in the other



A Palestinian worker rests inside a smuggling tunnel in Rafah, on the border between Egypt and the southern Gaza Strip. Picture AP

direction to confront Palestinian fighters who would have a defender's advantage in narrow, dark, underventilated and collapsible passages with which they were familiar.

"We don't want to go down there. We know that they left us a lot of side-bombs (improvised explosives devices)," he said.

One such bomb, rigged to the cover of a tunnel-access shaft at ground level, had killed four special forces reservists last week.

Web of tunnels

Hamas has tunnels for attack, smuggling and storage, security sources say. Dozens of shafts can lead to each tunnel at depths of between 20 and 80 metres.

Hamas has tunnels for attack, smuggling and storage, security sources say. Dozens of shafts can lead to each tunnel at depths of between 20 and 80 metres. Destroying a shaft is relatively easy and quick, the officer said, adding 'Any platoon can do it'.

Destroying a shaft is relatively easy and quick, the officer said, adding: "Any platoon can do it."

The Israeli military last week said 130 shafts had been destroyed so far, but gave no figure for demolished tunnels.

The tunnels are harder to tackle. The officer said several tonnes of the exploding gel - on which he declined to give any technical details, other than to say it is brought in by truck - are required for every few hundred metres of tunnel.

After-action analysis is difficult. The officer said around half of the shafts in his Beit Hanoun operation zone had been destroyed, but acknowledged these can be rebuilt.

"It's hard to say how many tunnels (are

destroyed) because they are all connected," he said. Hamas has denied using hospitals as cover for such tunnels. It has dismissed assertions by Israel it has a command centre under Gaza's biggest hospital, Al Shifa, which Israeli forces entered Wednesday.

Efforts to avoid endangering hostages

Hamas took some 240 people back to Gaza as captives in the October 7 attack in which about 1200 people were killed, Israel has said. One of a handful of hostages released said she and at least two dozen others had been held in a tunnel.

The army officer said care was being taken not to endanger tunnels that may contain hostages.

"We sometimes get indications that this (a target) might be related to hostages. And then we know not to attack it unless we get an approval (that it is clear)", he said

Like much of northern Gaza, Beit Hanoun has been emptied of civilians, who fled south under orders from Israel as it sent in ground troops to try to wipe out Hamas.

"The only population left is the terrorists," the officer said, adding that sometimes a secondary explosion set off by a tunnel destruction blast "will bring down a building a few hundred metres away".

Palestinian gunmen taken captive have provided Israel with intelligence on the tunnel network, he said, but this information has been limited. "Most of them don't know about the whole city. But they know their own village, they know pretty well the tunnel system," the officer said.

The officer said it could take months to destroy Gaza's entire underground network.

"I think it's more complicated than the New York City subway," he said.

Retailers offering deep discounts

TWO in five retailers have already started slashing prices to entice cautious consumers ahead of the cyber week-end sales.

The four-week discounting period kicks off next Friday, but National Retail Association director Rob Godwin says retailers are already offering deep discounts ahead of what's tipped to be a flat festive period.

"There's an awful lot of stock available and retailers are being super aggressive," Mr Godwin told AAP.

The industry body estimates around 40 per cent of retailers have already started their discounting cycle.

"It's shaping up as very much a buyers' Christmas, with great deals already available for those who get in early," he said.

A notable 10 per cent of the entire festive season spend is expected to take place during the four-day Black Friday and Cyber Monday sales.

The discounting period, which began in the United States to coincide with the Thanksgiving holiday, has been embraced by Australian consumers.

It's now the biggest four days on the retail calendar, with discounting now spilling over into either side of the event and sales stretch-

It's shaping up as very much a buyers' Christmas.

Rob Godwin

ing over six or eight weeks.

In recent years, consumers have been taking advantage of the discounting period to get a head start on their Christmas spending, but the financial burden of higher interest rates and cost of living pressures is expected to intensify the phenomenon.

Transactions data released by two major banks this week pointed to a softer

month for consumer spending in October.

National Australia Bank chief economist Alan Oster said the sluggish October numbers suggested some consumers may be waiting until the sales period gets into full swing in November.

"Households remain under pressure and we will be watching closely to see how spending evolves, especially

given the recent rise in interest rates and the resilience of inflation," he said.

Surveying by comparison firm Compare the Market ahead of the sales found Australians would be most focused on cheaper clothes, electronics, shoes and beauty products.

One in five were most interested in clothing sales, and another 20 per cent would be chasing marked down electronics.

Given the financial pressure on households, the industry body is anticipating a flat \$63 billion spend between now and the end of December.

MARKET WATCH

THE DOLLAR

	BUYING	SELLING
USD	0.667	0.626
GBP	0.538	0.503
EUR	0.616	0.575
JPY	100.47	94.12
NZD	1.109	1.05

COMMODITIES

	CURRENT	MOVE
Gold \$US/o	1980.851	+21.76
Oil	77.49	-3.57

TOP 10 BY VALUE

	STRADED	CLOSE
BHP Group	333,590,157	46.61
CSI	303,782,254	258.61
CBA	234,939,879	102.47
Origin Energy	233,823,750	8.60
Rio Tinto	221,134,243	125.62
ANZ Banking	191,027,870	24.07
Fortescue Met	183,069,471	25.22
Macquarie Grp	177,868,989	167.42
Nat Aust Bank	132,331,379	27.73
Wesfarmers	124,989,074	53.00

KEY STOCKS

	LAST	MOVE
AMP	855	00
ANZ	24.07	-12
BHP Group	46.61	+05
CBA	102.47	-18
NAB	27.73	02
News Corp	33.82	-13
Rio Tinto	125.62	-45
Telstra	5.84	-01
Westpac	21.10	05
Woolworths	35.32	43

WORLD MARKETS

	LAST	MOVE
S&P ASX200	7049.4	9.00
A. Orgs	7261	8.50
Dow Jones	34,945.47	45.74
NASDAQ	14,103.84	+9.46
S&P500	4502.88	+7.18
NIKKEI225	33,585.2	+160.79
NZSE 50	11,176.97	-53.90

Lendlease Group hit with first strike after \$232m loss

LENLEASE has become the latest Australian company to receive a first strike on executive pay as shareholders make their dissatisfaction with subpar performance clear.

Just 60.2 per cent of shareholder votes on Friday were cast in favour of its remuneration report on executive pay, short of the 75 per cent super-majority required to avoid a first strike.

There's no immediate impact, but if Lendlease receives a second strike next year, shareholders will also automatically vote on a board spill motion that would force every board member to stand for re-election.

Other companies that have received first strikes this AGM season include Qantas, Woolworths, Whitehaven Coal, Magellan Financial, Tabcorp, Treasury Wine Estates and APA Group, with AMP and Atlas Arteria also hit with their own first strikes earlier in the year.

Lendlease chairman Michael Ullmer told shareholders

in Melbourne that the construction and real estate company recognised and respected its securityholders' feedback after its disappointing performance for 2022/23.

In August, Lendlease

posted a statutory full-year after-tax loss of \$232 million, after taking a \$295 million provision on United Kingdom extending the warranty period on defective residential buildings to 30 years.

Its core operating profit was down seven per cent to \$257 million.

"The board and I acknowledge that securityholder expectations were not met, and understand the frustration

felt," Mr Ullmer said.

Chief executive Tony Lombardo was also emphatic: "I want to be clear this is not a result that I or my leadership team aims to deliver," he said.



Lendlease has become the latest Australian company to receive a first strike on executive pay. Picture AAP

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WEATHER

WOLLONGONG
TODAY 23°C Partly cloudy

BATEMANS BAY
TODAY 24°C Sunny

CANBERRA
TODAY 28°C Partly cloudy

SUN 15/25°C MON 18/23°C TUE 18/23°C WED 18/21°C THU 18/21°C FRI 17/20°C

SUN 11/27°C MON 13/25°C TUE 14/25°C WED 13/22°C THU 13/22°C FRI 12/21°C

SUN 9/31°C MON 13/26°C TUE 13/25°C WED 11/23°C THU 11/22°C FRI 10/20°C

REGIONAL OUTLOOK

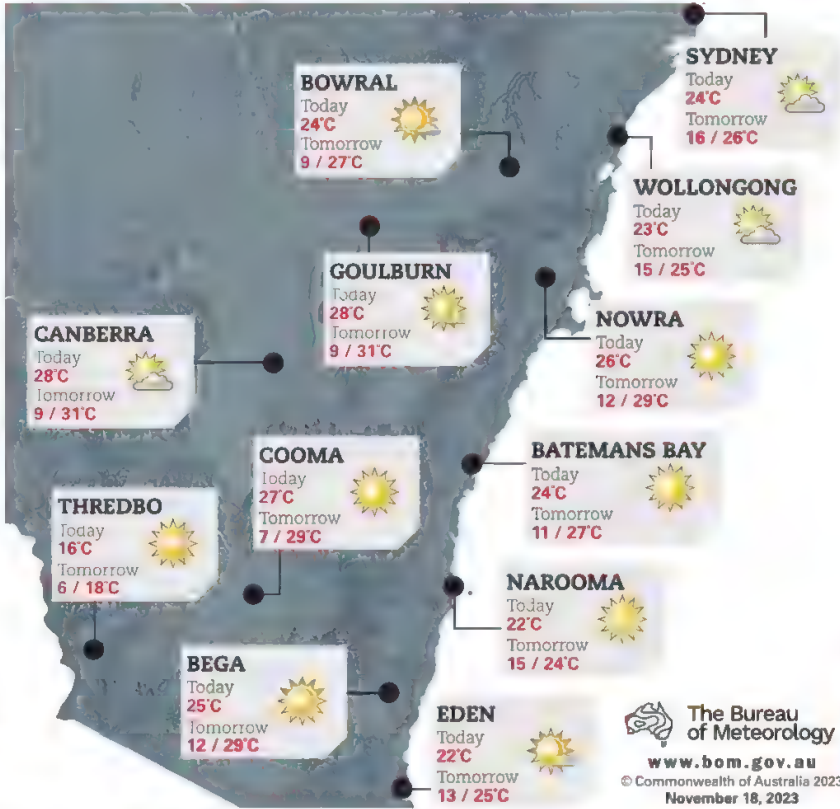
WARNINGS were current at 5pm yesterday.
www.bom.gov.au/australia/warnings
1300 659 210 (cost of a local call)

CANBERRA
The chance of fog in the early morning. Mostly sunny afternoon. Light winds becoming northwesterly 15 to 20 km/h in the early afternoon then becoming light in the evening.

ILLAWARRA
Mostly sunny. Light winds becoming north-easterly 20 to 30 km/h in the middle of the day.

ILLAWARRA COASTAL WATERS
Port Hacking to Ulladulla
Winds: Variable below 10 knots becoming northerly 10 to 15 knots in the morning then tending northeasterly 15 to 20 knots in the middle of the day. Winds reaching up to 25 knots south of Point Perpendicular in the late afternoon. Seas: Around 1 metre, increasing to 1 to 1.5 metres during the afternoon. Swell: Southerly 1.5 to 2 metres, decreasing to 1 to 1.5 metres during the morning. Weather: Partly cloudy.

BATEMANS COASTAL WATERS
Ulladulla to Montague Island
Winds: Variable below 10 knots becoming northerly 15 to 20 knots in the morning then tending northeasterly in the early afternoon. Seas: Below 1 metre, increasing to 1 to 1.5 metres during the afternoon. Swell: Southerly 1.5 to 2 metres, decreasing to 1 to 1.5 metres during the morning, then decreasing to around 1 metre during the afternoon. Weather: Partly cloudy.



YESTERDAY

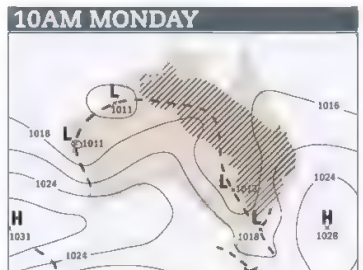
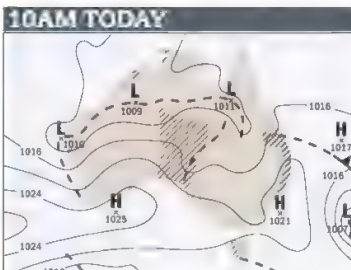
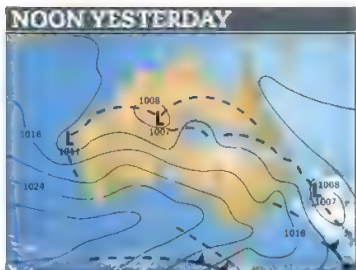
Location	**Max	Min	Rain*
Bega	24	11	1.0
Canberra	23	11	0.0
Cooma	19	4	0.0
Goulburn	21	9	0.0
Kiama	19	14	7.0
Merimbula	22	11	1.2
Moruya	21	11	10.0
Nowra	21	13	2.2
Thredbo	12	-3	na
Tuggeranong	23	10	0.0
Ulladulla	20	14	3.0
Wollongong	20	15	8.8

THE TIDES

SYDNEY
High 12:29am 1.3m 12:29pm 1.8m
Low 5:52am 0.6m 7:29pm 0.4m
TOMORROW
High 1:30am 1.2m 1:27pm 1.7m
Low 6:53am 0.7m 8:31pm 0.4m
PORT KEMBLA
High 12:33am 1.2m 12:25pm 1.7m
Low 5:48am 0.6m 7:32pm 0.3m
TOMORROW
High 1:36am 1.1m 1:23pm 1.7m
Low 6:48am 0.6m 8:35pm 0.3m
EDEN
High 12:47am 1.2m 12:22pm 1.8m
Low 5:52am 0.8m 7:35pm 0.4m
TOMORROW
High 1:49am 1.2m 1:19pm 1.7m
Low 6:53am 0.8m 8:37pm 0.4m

WOLLONGONG
8:40am - 4:40pm

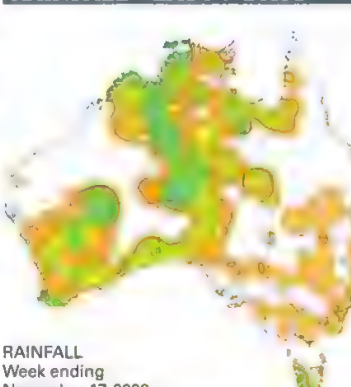
Forecast Rain: 24 hrs to 9am. Legend: Sunny, Mostly Sunny, Partly Cloudy, Cloudy, Chance shower, Shower or two, Showers, Showers storm, Storms, Chance rain (drizzle), Light rain, Rain, Rain, storm, Windy, Dusty, Fog, Haze smoke, Snow.



THE WORLD

Location	Weather	High	Low
Amsterdam	rain	8	4
Athens	showers	18	10
Auckland	rain	21	16
Bangkok	fine	32	23
Barcelona	sunny	19	14
Beijing	fine	12	-2
Christchurch	fine	16	4
Frankfurt	cloudy	7	1
Helsinki	cloudy	-2	-6
Hong Kong	dry	23	16
Johannesburg	storms	27	17
Kuala Lumpur	storms	33	25
London	rain	14	8
Los Angeles	rain	20	14
Moscow	fine	1	-1
Noumea	sunny	29	21
Paris	cloudy	12	8
Port Vila	fine	28	19
Rio De Janeiro	rain	42	25
Rome	fine	16	7
Seoul	fine	7	-4
Singapore	storms	34	24
Suva	storms	30	22
Tel Aviv	showers	25	20
Tokyo	fine	17	9
Vancouver	showers	10	3
Washington	sunny	14	12
Wellington	showers	18	10

RAINFALL - LAST 7 DAYS



RAINFALL Week ending November 17, 2023

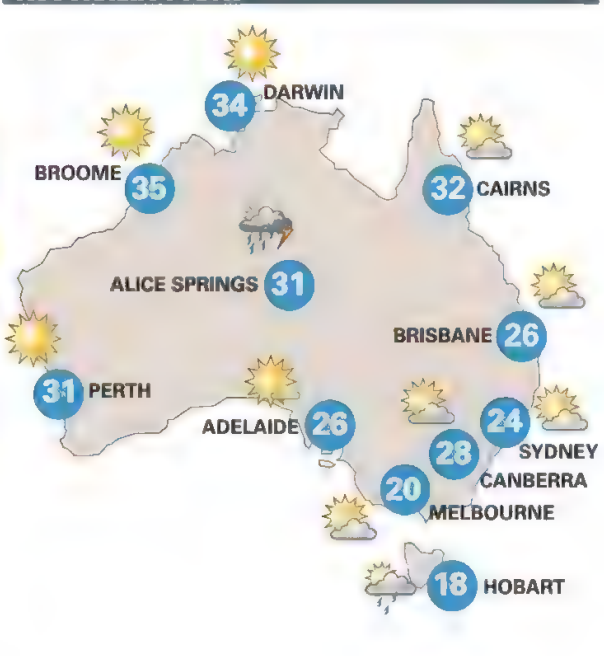
SUN & MOON

	SYDNEY	MELBOURNE	CANBERRA	HOBART
Rise	5:42am	5:58am	5:47am	5:36am
Set	7:39pm	8:12pm	7:50pm	8:16pm
Rise	9:31am	9:44am	9:35am	9:14am
Set	Nil	12:26am	12:00am	12:38am

PHASES OF THE MOON

First	Full	Last	New
Nov 20	Nov 27	Dec 5	Dec 13

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- The Courier (Ballarat, VIC)
- The Standard (Warrnambool, VIC)
- Central Western Daily (Orange, NSW)

- Bendigo Advertiser (Bendigo, VIC)
- The Daily Advertiser (Wagga Wagga, NSW).

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- Demonstrated news multimedia skills, including video.
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Self Service

Death Notices



SHIRLEY FRANCES BLOW

8 December 1930 - 13 November 2023

Chenshed wife of Robert and formerly of Doug McLachlan (dec).
Adored mother and mother-in-law to Mark and Jan, and Sallyanne.
Loved Nanna to Scott, Iain, Skye, Connor, Laura and Rodney.
Great-Nanna to Jacob, Josephine, Joshua, Aira and Hector.
Sister to June and Noel (dec).

Shirley will be fondly remembered by all who knew her.

The funeral service for Shirley will be held in the Chapel at Norwood Park Crematorium, 65 Sandford Street, Mitchell on Monday, 27 November 2023, commencing at 3pm.

Please contact William Cole Funerals for livestream details.



WILLIAM COLE FUNERALS
Canberra 6253 3655

ROSALIND MARIE CAREW

previously de Kievith, nee Farmer

25 February 1937 - 11 November 2023

Much loved by all her family.
At peace in Bluebird Heaven.

The funeral service for Rosalind will be held at Norwood Park Crematorium, 65 Sandford Street Mitchell, on **Wednesday** 22 November, commencing at 3pm.



SIMPLE GOODBYES

Peter Dunn & Mark Copley
www.simplegoodbyes.com.au

CAREW (NEE FARMER)

Rosalind

Rosalind, thank you for growing up as my only sister. I will miss you. Thank you for so many memories, going back to 1937 - you won't be forgotten. Love you forever, Richard Farmer and deceased brothers Colin, Neil and Gilbert. Much loved Aunt of the Farmer children.

Death Notices

COPPEL

William Andrew

9.8.1930 - 10.11.2023

Passed away peacefully at Melbourne. Loving husband of Maria Antonietta (dec), and father of Stephen, Nicholas, Philip and Jonathan. Loved grandfather of Rebecca, Christopher and Natasha, and of Thomas and Emma, and brother of Hugh (dec) and Charles. Andrew will be remembered also for his research in pure mathematics at the Australian National University. Private cremation.



DUFFY RSM

Sr Margarita (Margaret)

05.03.1935 - 12.11.2023

Aged 88 years

Sr Margarita died peacefully at Warrigal Care, Goulburn NSW. Loved member of the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy Australia and Papua New Guinea. Loved daughter of Agnes and James (both deceased).
Loved Sister of Rita, John, Marjorie, Betty, Frances, Ronald, Brian (all deceased), Gwendoline, her half sister Monnie and her nieces, nephews and extended family.

A Requiem Mass will be held at 2.00pm at Sts. Peter and Paul's Cathedral, Goulburn, on Friday 24th November 2023

May she rest in peace



298 Sloane St., Goulburn
(02) 4821 2122

An accredited member of the Australian Funeral Directors Association and F.D.A. of NSW.

ROCHELLE 'Shelly' EDWARDS

née Bailey

11 February 1976 - 7 November 2023

With the heaviest of hearts, David and Sally announce the passing of their much-loved daughter.

The funeral service for Rochelle will be held at Gold Creek Chapel, O'Hanlon Place, Nicholls on **Tuesday**, 21 November 2023, commencing at 1pm.

"There are some who bring a light so great to the world that even after they have gone, the light remains."



(02) 6341 4101



JOHN ELLIOTT

30 November 1954 - 8 November 2023

Loving partner of Helen.

Loved father of

James, Timothy and Kathryn.

Beloved grandfather to

Jude, Jack, Sienna, Penny and Ava.

Will be sorely missed by family and friends, always in our hearts.

A service to celebrate John's life will be held in the Chapel of Norwood Park Crematorium, Sandford Street, Mitchell on Monday, 20 November 2023, commencing at 1:30pm.

For livestream details please follow link:
https://www.norwoodpark.com.au/service-streaming/



WILLIAM COLE FUNERALS
Canberra - 6253 3655

Death Notices



KARL GRIMM

10 March 1930 - 13 November 2023

Loved father and father-in-law of Michael and Jane, Annette (dec) and Andrew, Christine and Jim, Marianne and Fabian.

Cherished grandfather and great-grandfather.

Forever in our hearts.

Mass to celebrate Karl's life will be held in St Michael's Catholic Church, Tyrrell Circuit, Kaleen on Tuesday, 28 November 2023, commencing at 12 noon. Burial will follow at Gungahlin Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, a donation in Karl's name to Caritas Australia would be appreciated.

For livestream details please contact the family or William Cole Funerals.



WILLIAM COLE FUNERALS
Canberra - 6253 3655



PETER WILLIAM HIDER (AM)

30 May 1939 - 12 November 2023

Adoring husband of Gerhild (dec).
Loving dad to Niels, Karen and Mike.
Proud Grampa to Emmeline and Finn.

Peter will be sadly missed by family and friends.

We extend our grateful thanks to everyone who supported Peter and to the beautiful people involved in his care.

The funeral service for Peter will be held in the Chapel of Norwood Park Crematorium, Sandford Street, Mitchell on Thursday, 23 November 2023, commencing at 3pm.

For live streaming details, please follow link:
https://www.norwoodpark.com.au/service-streaming/



WILLIAM COLE FUNERALS
Canberra - 6253 3655

WOLFGANG HOEFEL

2 December 1953 - 8 November 2023

Much loved son of Wilma and Kurt (dec.).
Brother of Walter, Hans (dec.), Peter (dec.), Michael and Veronica.

Brother-in-law of Jennifer, Karen and Grant.
Uncle and great-uncle of many.

Thanks to the staff at Bill McKenzie Gardens and Dr Paul Appleton for their care.

A private cremation will be held.



Tobin Brothers
A Canberra Funeral Provider
KINGSTON 02 6295 2799

DOROTHY ELAINE HOLGATE

'DOFFY'

28 March 1926 - 15 November 2023

Our beautiful Mum passed away peacefully with her girls by her side.

Cherished wife of Bruce (dec).
Adored Mother and Nana of Margaret (dec), Louise, Judi, Gini, Graham, Josh, Elaine, Lucy, Imogen and Archer.

Family and friends are invited to attend her funeral service at The Anglican Parish of St John the Baptist, Constitution Avenue, Reid on **Tuesday, 28 November 2023**, commencing at 10:30 am.

Cremation will follow at Norwood Park Crematorium.



WILLIAM COLE FUNERALS
Canberra - 6253 3655

Death Notices



JOHN DESMOND KEARNS

8 January 1932 - 12 November 2023

Much loved husband of Josephine (dec).
Loving father and father-in-law of Anne and Gavan, Maureen and Jeffery.
Chenshed father of identical twins Susan and Kathryn.
Adored by his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

It's hard to forget someone who gave us so much to remember.

The funeral service for John will be held in St Michael's Catholic Church, Tyrrell Circuit, Kaleen, on Thursday, 23 November 2023, commencing at 10:30am.

At the conclusion of the service, burial will follow at Gungahlin Cemetery, Mitchell.



WILLIAM COLE FUNERALS
Canberra - 6253 3655

de Mar (née Keller) Lola

Passed away peacefully at home in the tender loving care of partner and soulmate Bill

Truly wonderful mother of Paul, Louise and Gareth, and much-loved grandmother of Max, Tess, Kate, Kiri, Sophie, Maya and Beatie.
Greatly loved wife of Henry for 52 wonderful years.

Treasured friend and inspirational art teacher.

Dedicated her working life to bringing art and joy into the lives of people of all abilities.

No funeral service by request of Lola.

JUDITH GARRARD LAVER

nee CAHN

9 August 1930 - 14 November 2023

Loved mother of Rowan, Penny and Merran.

Twin sister of Jill (dec.).

Wife of Graeme (dec.).

Adored Gran of Aulikki, Lara and Ethan.
Sadly missed.

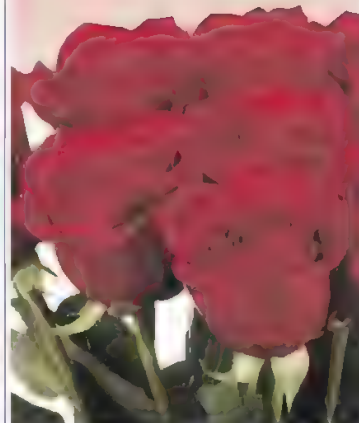
Kind, Strong, Selfless.

A private cremation was held.

The memorial service for Judith will be held in the White Lady Chapel, 101 Nettiefold Street, Belconnen ACT on **Wednesday** 29 November 2023 commencing at 10:30am.

Livestream details are available on the White Lady Funerals website. For those unable to attend.
www.whiteladyfunerals.com.au

WHITE LADY FUNERALS
BELCONNEN 02 6251 4508





Death Notices


**ROBERT FREDERICK COMPTON
LEGGÉ
'BOB'**
30 July 1942 - 11 November 2023

Archaeologist, photographer, public servant, researcher, cold war warrior, part-time hobbist, writer and true gentleman.

A beloved, sometimes grumpy, always funny, loving and kind partner, father, friend and storyteller. He passed peacefully in his sleep in his 'Hobbit Hole' home.

"Don't adventures ever have an end? I suppose not. Someone else always has to carry on the story."

We will carry on your stories for you, and miss you, your smile, gentle blue eyes, and quirky sense of humour, more than you will know.
— Anya and Alexei

Family and friends are invited to the service to celebrate Bob's life which will be held in the Tobin Brothers Chapel, 101 Nettiefold Street, Belconnen ACT **Wednesday 22 November 2023 commencing at 1:30pm.**


ROBERT GRAHAM MELVILLE
17 February 1928 - 13 November 2023

It is with deep sadness that we announce the death of Graham.

Beloved husband of Joan (dec) for 71 years.
Father of Louise, Barbara (dec), Margaret and David (dec).
Grandfather, great-grandfather, loyal friend and proud veteran.

Your quiet strength and loving heart will always be treasured.

Many thanks to the loving, caring staff at Bill McKenzie Gardens.

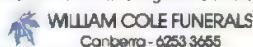
Privately cremated as per the family's wishes.


HARRY MIHAS
25 June 1969 - 13 November 2023

Loving son of George (dec) and Christina Mihas.
Brother to Helen.
Beloved husband of Georgina.
Cherished father of Christina and George.
Dearly loved son-in-law, brother-in-law and uncle.

No amount of time would ever be enough.

The funeral service for Harry will be held at Greek Orthodox Church of St Nicholas, Gosse Street, Kingston on Wednesday, 22 November 2023, commencing at 10:30am. Burial will follow at Gungahlin Cemetery.



Death Notices

Hans Mohr
7 December 1940 - 11 November 2023

Passed away peacefully at Jindalee Nursing Home.

Dearly loved husband of Janelle.
Much loved father and father-in-law of Peter & Marty, Michelle & Dave, Jeffrey & Janette, Stacey, Roger & Aimee.

Opa to Mason, Mandy and Austin, Shamee & Chris, Jake & Ash, Jayde, Liam, Andie and Jakob, Brooks and Jett.

Great Opa to Mia, Layla, Oliver and Joey.

Forever in our hearts.

Many thanks to the staff at Jindalee Nursing Home, especially those of the Casuarina and Banksia Wings for their kindness, dedication, smiles and warmth.

The funeral service for Hans will be held in the Chapel of M.H. O'Rourke Funeral Directors, 113 Crawford Street, Queanbeyan, on **Tuesday, 21 November, 2023 commencing at 11:00 am.**



M.H. O'ROURKE
Proudly Australian Owned
Telephone 6297 052

SEAMUS PATRICK O'KANE
**Born 13 April 1930, Donegal.
Died 14 November 2023, Canberra.
Aged 93.**

Loved husband of Aileen for 68 years.
Proud father of Peter, Pauline, Kerry Ann, Sean, Catherine, James and Kevin.
Brother of William (Joe) (dec) and Anne (USA).
Loved grandfather, great-grandfather, brother-in-law, uncle and father-in-law.
Popular member of the extended O'Kane and Harvey families.
Immigrant, Gaelic footballer, pioneer of the Snowy scheme and the Australian tourism industry.
Teetotaler, sponge cake lover and proud son of Erin.

Until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of his hand.

Requiem Mass to be celebrated at Mary Help of Christians Parish, Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Hodgson Crescent, Pearce on Thursday, 23 November 2023, commencing at 10:30 am.

For livestream details please contact William Cole Funerals.

No flowers by request.


Marie Elizabeth Oldfield
9 January 1926 - 8 November 2023

Born at 'Lanyon' Tharwa ACT, to Thomas and Adelaide Oldfield (both dec).

Loving sister to Roma Brayshaw, Iris Curtis, Jean Gregory, Vera Scarlet, Jack Oldfield, Frank Oldfield, Sheila Rowley, Bert Oldfield, Kevin Oldfield and Norma Oldfield (all dec).

A graveside service for Marie will be held at Queanbeyan Lawn Cemetery, Lanyon Drive, Jerrabomberra, on **Thursday, 23 November 2023 commencing at 11am.**



M.H. O'ROURKE
Proudly Australian Owned
Telephone 6297 052

JOHN BRENTON POPE
**Born 20 February 1933 in Adelaide
Passed away 9 November 2023 in Canberra**

Loving husband of Margaret.
Devoted father of Bron, Lynlee, Barry, Robert and Kerry.
Devoted uncle, father-in-law, grandfather and great-grandfather.

*Psalm 27:1
The Lord is my light and my salvation.*



WILLIAM COLE FUNERALS
Canberra - 6253 3655

Death Notices

**KRISTEN PROUDFOOT
(nee Erland)**
19 September 1951 - 5 November 2023

Beloved partner to Searle (dec).
Much loved mother of Cass, Owen, and Charlotte (dec).
Loving Nanna to Adele, Jasper, Daphne, Angus, Alex and Zain.
Fond mother-in-law of Andrew, Linus and Desi.
Caring first wife to Alex and sister to Adrienne and Gail.

Teacher, reader, horse-rider, gardener, animal-lover and friend to many.
Kristen will be deeply missed.

The service to farewell Kristen will be held in the Chapel at Norwood Park Crematorium, Sandford Street, Mitchell on Thursday, 23 November 2023, commencing at 1.30pm.

Please bring a flower from your garden to farewell Kristen and her love for nature.

For livestream details follow the link below <https://www.norwoodpark.com.au/service-streaming/>

Always in our hearts.



WILLIAM COLE FUNERALS
Canberra - 6253 3655


URSULA MARY RAMSAY
8 December 1933 - 10 November 2023

Beloved wife of Raymond (dec).
Loving mother of Catherine (dec) and Mark and mother-in-law of Ronda.
Cherished nanna to Ashlee and Tayla.

Dearly loved and sadly missed by her family and friends.

Our heartfelt thanks to the loving nurses and carers at Jindalee Aged Care.

Requiem Mass for Ursula will be held at Holy Rosary Catholic Church, corner of Antill Street and Phillip Avenue, Watson on Wednesday, 22 November 2023, commencing at 10.30am.

Committal will follow at Norwood Park Crematorium.



WILLIAM COLE FUNERALS
Canberra - 6253 3655


ROSEMARY ROTH (PREECE)
**Born Delhi, India 8 October 1946
Passed peacefully Canberra
10 November 2023**

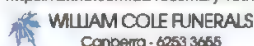
Dear wife of David for 54 years.
Loved and loving mother of Douglas and Vanessa.
Grandma of Ethan and Jessica.
Sister of Roger and Helene.
Friend to Glenda and Lucian.

*Remembering the good times and happy memories.
Sadly missed.*

Our heartfelt thanks to the palliative care team at the Canberra Hospital.

The funeral service for Rosemary will be held in The Chapel at Gold Creek, O'Hanlon Pl, Nicholls, on Tuesday, 5 December 2023, commencing at 1pm. Burial will follow at Gungahlin Cemetery.

For live streaming details, please follow link <https://atnd.com.au/rosemary-roth>



WILLIAM COLE FUNERALS
Canberra - 6253 3655

Death Notices

**GRAHAM HOWARD GEORGE
STEWART**
2 August 1950 - 14 November 2023

Much loved husband of Glynnis for 50 years.
Adored father and father-in-law of Colleen, Craig and Janeira, Kelly and Chris.
Cherished Papa of Ava, Abby and Noah.
Beloved brother and brother-in-law.

Always with a twinkle in his eyes.

The funeral service for Graham will be held in the Chapel of Norwood Park Crematorium, Sandford Street, Mitchell on Monday, 27 November 2023, commencing at 9:00am.

This service will be live streamed.
For details please follow link <https://www.norwoodpark.com.au/service-streaming/>

In lieu of flowers an online donation in Graham's name may be made to Parkinson's Australia.



WILLIAM COLE FUNERALS
Canberra - 6253 3655


KATHLEEN PATRICIA STEWART
2 October 1930 - 10 November 2023

Passed away peacefully in the Canberra Hospital.
Beloved wife of Garry (dec) for 62 years.
Sister of Margaret and Patrick (dec).
Dearly loved mother of Kieran, Mark, Gael, Anne, Colleen, Paul, and their partners.
Grandmother of Kevin, Phillip, Tia, Sean (dec), Clare, Emily, Thomas, Edmund, Katharine, Sarah, Caitlin, Angus, Olivia and Emelia.
Great Grandmother of 10.

We are blessed to have had you in our lives and you will be dearly missed.

Many thanks to the staff of Jindalee for their care and kindness.

Requiem Mass to celebrate Kathleen's life will be held at Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Strangways Street, Curtin on Tuesday, 21 November 2023, commencing at 11am. Burial will follow at Woden Cemetery

For live streaming details, please follow link <https://atnd.com.au/kathleen-stewart>



WILLIAM COLE FUNERALS
Canberra - 6253 3655


Jozefa Pivar Sullivan
19 March 1932 - 14 November 2023

Loved and missed by family and friends.

The funeral service for Jozefa will be held at Saint Peter and Paul Catholic Church, 2 Boake Street, Garran, on **Thursday, 23 November 2023 commencing at 12:00pm.**

Burial to follow at Gungahlin Cemetery.



M.H. O'ROURKE
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Connect with Classifieds

Death Notices

NERIDA EVELYN TROTH - BLACK 19 May 1943 - 15 November 2023

Loved wife of Garry Troth (dec.).
Cherished wife of Peter Black, her rock.
Dearly loved Mum and Mother-in-Law of
Debbie and David, Shane and Hannah,
and Damien and Heidi.
Devoted and adored Nana of Abbie, Darcy,
Angus, Jake and George.

A heartfelt thanks to all who supported
Nerida through a long, brave battle.
She will be treasured always
and forever in our hearts.

Bye, bye for now xxx

A Memorial Service for Nerida will be held
in the Holy Trinity Anglican Church
in Grenfell NSW
on **Friday 1 December 2023**
commencing at **11:00am**.

WHITE LADY
FUNERALS
BELCONNEN 02 6251 4369

Funeral Notices

SLAVICA MAMIC nee CONDRIĆ 10 January 1933 - 11 November 2023

Beloved wife of Vinko (dec).
Loving mother to Vlado and
mother-in-law to Narelle.
Adored Baka to Sonja.

Now resting peacefully in God's garden.

Requiem Mass for the repose of
the soul of Slavica will be offered in
St Augustine's Catholic Church,
Beasley Street, Farrer ACT
on **FRIDAY, 24 November 2023**
commencing at 10.00am.

The funeral will leave at the
conclusion of Mass for burial at
Gungahlin Cemetery
80 Sandford Street, Mitchell ACT.

WHITE LADY
FUNERALS
KINGSTON 02 6239 7023

In Memoriam



NOWLAN
Greg

Vietnam Veteran - 1968-69
18 Dec 1946 - 19 Nov 2022
Forever in our hearts
Loved and missed by all your family

For Sale

HUGE Plant Sale

Jap maples from \$4
Hydrangeas from \$5
Agapanthus \$5
Jude plants from \$3
Oyster plants \$2
Succulents from \$2
Spider plants \$5
6 Meerup St, Amaroo
Sat & Sun

Legal Notices

**Form 1 Notice of
Intended Distribution
Administration and Probate Act 1929**
(see s 64 (1))

**In the Supreme Court
of the Australian
Capital Territory
Probate Jurisdiction**

In the estate of of **Doris
Jean Mannett** (also
known as **Jean
Mannett**), late of
Goodwin Village, David
Harper House, 108/15
Cockcroft Avenue,
Monash in the
Australian Capital
Territory, deceased

Any person with a claim
against the estate of the
deceased person, who
died on the 17th day of
August 2023 must send
particulars of the claim
to the executor, within
30 days after the day
this notice is published

After that time and after
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Michelle Gold,
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Bailey-Grant
Sarah, of Watson,
niece of
Sylvia Garlick,

please contact
Terese Fehlberg
tuf@inet.net.au

Public Notices

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Australian Government
National Capital Authority

Lake Burley Griffin Water Quality Updates

The National Capital Authority
advises that Lake Burley Griffin
water quality monitoring for the
2023/24 recreational season is in
progress.

Water quality is assessed
in accordance with the 'ACT
Guidelines for Recreational Water
Quality.'

Weekly water quality information,
updates and alerts will be posted
each **Friday by 4 pm** and available
via the free Swim Guide app or
www.theswimguide.org

nca.gov nca.gov.au nca.media
www.nca.gov.au

Funeral Notices

DR JOHN EDMUND GRAY OAM 7 May 1930 - 14 November 2023

Beloved husband of Pixie (dec).
Much loved father, grandfather and
great-grandfather to Michael and Melissa
and their families.

A man of all seasons.

A celebration of John's life
will be held at the
Norwood Park Crematorium,
65 Sandford Street, Mitchell ACT
on **THURSDAY, 23 November 2023**,
commencing at **10:30 am**.

Livestream can be accessed via the
Tobin Brothers Funerals Website
www.tobinbrothersfunerals.com.au

Tobin Brothers
A Canberra Funeral Provider
KINGSTON 02 6295 2799

Deaths & Funerals

Margaret Florence Elise-Mitchell (nee Brewster) 17 June 1933 - 16 November 2023

90 Years Old

Solicitor. Advocate Trailblazer

Beloved mother to Rosamund and Francis (dec).
Wife of Rae (dec)
Grandmother to Olivia.
Cousin to Ian and Peter

*'A champion of justice, whose energy and
interests knew no bounds.'*

The Graveside Service for Margaret
will be in the Gungahlin Cemetery, Mitchell ACT
Tuesday 21st of November 2023 commencing
at 11:30am

Tobin Brothers
Phone 02 6295 2799

LIND, Patricia

16.10.1944 - 10.11.2023

Beautiful wife of John (Duck)
Much loved Mum of Nicole & Sharon
Loving Nanna of Amee & Austin

The Gates of Memory Never Close

Family and Friends are invited to attend a
Celebration of Patricia's life to be held in the
West Chapel at Eastern Suburbs Memorial
Park, 12 Military Road, Matraville on Monday,
20th November 2023 at 10.30am

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HOLLY (NEE SWANTON)

Helen Mary Garrett

12 February 1939 - 12 November 2023

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by: David & Monica; Christopher & Joanne;
Rebekah & Nitin; Rebecca; Niranjan & Millie;
Amelia; Madeleine & Dan; Anand & Erin;
Elizabeth.

Thanksgiving Service 2pm, 21 November,
Canberra Baptist Church (also YouTube
Canberra Baptist Church).

JANE ELIZABETH KELLY 26 March 1968 - 20 October 2023

Treasured daughter of
Patrick and Gaye (both dec).
Adored sister and sister-in-law of
Ben and Cherie, Rebecca (dec.) and
John and Leanne.

Doting aunt to Laura, Chloe, Daniel,
Andrew, Josh, Chantelle, Lilli and Zak.
Great aunt to Em, Archie, Tia,
Hazel, Atti and Maevie.
Loved niece and cousin, cherished
neighbour and friend.

*May the road rise up to meet you, may the
wind be always with you, may the
sunshine warm you always,
till we meet again.*

Jane's family would like to thank
her dedicated carers and
the amazing staff at TCH for their
excellent care of Jane.

Jane's funeral was held on
Friday, 10 November 2023 at
Holy Family Catholic Church in Gowrie
and she has been laid to rest in the
Queanbeyan Cemetery

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>>> DON'T MISS OUT! <<<



Tom Pratt is in the main event of Endouro Fight Series in Canberra on Saturday night. Picture by Keegan Carroll

Pratt rises from schoolyard scrap to main event

MIXED MARTIAL ARTS

Caden Helmers

TOM Pratt can only laugh about the day he got in a scrap out the front of his old high school.

"Did well," Pratt grinned. "Everyone gave me a bit of praise and I felt like the big man walking around school."

So with Pratt about to headline an Endouro Fight Series mixed martial arts event in his hometown, you naturally want his prediction for how this one will end.

"Second round knockout," Pratt said.

Safe to say this one has a bit more riding on it than a schoolyard scrap, with Pratt [1-1] set to take top billing against Queenslander Jonathan Kuhn Rossi [0-1] in the main event at the Hellenic Club of Canberra

on Saturday night.

The 28-year-old light-weight isn't quite sure how he'll feel when he makes the walk to the cage with so many among the sold-out crowd there to see him.

"I don't want to waste energy on thought. I feel pretty calm usually. When the music comes on, it's like 'this is fun, walking out listening to a mad song'," Pratt said. "It gets a bit more real when they put the vaso on your face and the mouthguard pops in."

For the record, the song choice for Saturday night is *Intro* by DMX, a la boxing's heavyweight great Mike Tyson when he returned to face Francois Botha in 1999.

Pratt has had a taste of professional boxing and grew up playing rugby league for the Woden Valley Rams, but now his future is

in the cage.

"I felt like I was a bit more suited to fighting, especially seeing as though I didn't have to get in there against 120 kilo Islanders," Pratt laughed.

"I do enjoy boxing but MMA is definitely the way forward. I love all the different aspects to it. It mixes the training up as well, and I like a bit of variety."

But things haven't always gone to plan. Pratt lost his professional debut when he was outgrappled and outpointed. He tries to sum up the feeling for the average punter and settles on: "It's shit".

"First of all you're dog-tired. A little bit of panic starts to set in when you're that tired and it's not going to plan," Pratt said.

"You've got to think they are as well, so you've just

got to push through it. You push through it in training every day so why is the fight going to be any different, you know? I just try put it to the back of my head and just keep going forward."

But now? Pratt is training out of Progression MMA and Fitness under Duke Didier - a fighter signed to One Championship, a national light heavyweight champion who reached the Commonwealth Games - and his grappling has levelled up.

Ask Pratt how they first crossed paths and he tells you it was "probably on the drink" - but we can assure you he's kidding.

"At a jiu-jitsu comp when I was a white belt, he said G'day to me and I thought that was pretty sweet at the time because he was one of the big names around Canberra. It was him and Benny

Edwards [now an Endouro promoter]," Pratt said.

"I'd always go up to Benny Edwards on the door [while he was working in security] and hassle him, wanting to be his mate. Him and Duke started talking to me and we just became pretty good mates through that."

"We talked most days when [Didier] moved to Melbourne. He was telling me I should move out of Canberra for a while when he was down there. I've always been stuck in Canberra and then when he said he was coming back I was heaps excited. I jumped at the opportunity to train under him again."

"I feel very confident. This guy won't be able to take me down at all and that gives me a lot of confidence. I can control and dictate where the fight is going to go."

Injury-hit Capitals add another Jade to the books

BASKETBALL

Caden Helmers

JADE Kirsome will have suited up for more games than practices by the time she arrives in Canberra.

The Capitals' new recruit joined the team in Sydney this week, coming off the bench in a five-point loss to the Sydney Flames on Wednesday night. Now she finds herself in Townsville for a game against the Fire on Saturday night.

And the 23-year-old still hasn't even had a proper practice session with the Capitals after arriving to bolster a severely depleted WNBL roster.

"We're going to call her 'JJ', because we've got Jade [Melbourne], Jayda [Clark] and another Jade now," Capitals coach Kristen Veal said.

"JJ is a great cultural fit, super engaging and intelligent, discipline young player coming out of Saint Mary's."

"She joined the group in Sydney, and really hasn't even had a full practice with us and won't have a full practice with us until next week. It's like she's been a part of the group for the whole of pre-season, she has slotted in amazingly, and now we've just got to get her up to speed on court."

"This group is so connected in age, they kind of know each other anyway. Jade was part of junior national camps, Australian development camps and around high performance programs coming through."

"She's a little bit older than your Gemmas and your Jades [Gemma Potter and Jade Melbourne], and a little bit younger than your Sharpys [Alex Sharp]. She's been around the program."

SOCCER Australia determined to remain focused on football in World Cup qualifier

'Emotional': Socceroos tackle Palestine

THE Socceroos are determined to remain focused on their football as they prepare to face Palestine in a World Cup qualifier set against the backdrop of conflict in the Middle East.

After thrashing Bangladesh 7-0 at Melbourne's AAMI Park in their opening qualifying match on Thursday night to take early control of Group I, Australia will fly directly to Kuwait on Saturday for Tuesday's game.

Lebanon and Palestine drew 0-0 in the other group match on Thursday to ensure Australia are already two points ahead at the top of a pool which has been thrown into disarray by the escalation in violence in the region. Australia's game against Palestine was originally going to be held in the West Bank but was ultimately relocated to Kuwait.

"It's horrific what's going on over there at the mo-

ment," coach Graham Arnold said. "But I don't think we have any control over that."

"What we do have control over is our performance and playing against Palestine and going out and getting the job done for Australia."

"We're very sympathetic for everyone with what's going on. But again, it's a game of football and that brings a lot of joy to everybody."

Kuwait was chosen by

Palestine as their nominated 'home' venue.

"We heard actually the game could be sold out, which is crazy and exciting as well," Socceroos striker Mitch Duke said on Friday.

"You always love a good atmosphere and it is going to be probably a little bit hostile. They're going to create as much of a home advantage for themselves as they can."

"But a lot of the boys have probably experienced it and

the others that haven't it will be a great learning experience for them as well. We're all prepared mentally and physically, we're in great condition. So we're ready to take that test and start off this campaign with two wins."

Duke expects an "emotional game" for his Palestinian counterparts and with defender Harry Souttar urged the Socceroos to turn in a professional performance.

"We know that Palestine are going to be right up for it," Souttar said. "We know that they're going to be playing for a lot more than just football. But we're there to get a result and get a job done. We'll be professional and be going for the win."

Arnold expects Jackson Irvine, Duke and Craig Goodwin to be fresh after being taken off against Bangladesh. Martin Boyle (knee) should also be available.

SPORT

Crows won't be fixated on Swans star

AFLW: Adelaide can't afford to be overly focused on Sydney game-breaker Chloe Molloy in Saturday night's AFLW semi-final, coach Matthew Clarke says. The Crows mentor has two contingencies in place for the star Swan (pictured) in the knockout final at Adelaide's Norwood Oval. "One is to apply an individual player to try and shut her out of the game," Clarke said. "But the reality is she's just quality and she's going to have some influence ... it's team-orientated footy regardless of whether you have a specific match-up."



Sheezel primed to fire after US trip

AFL: Nick Daicos and a working holiday in the United States have given Harry Sheezel inspiration as the North Melbourne young gun prepares for his second season. Sheezel and his teammates officially started pre-season this week. "It's important to try to not drop off and back it up. What Nick did was incredible (this) year," Sheezel, 2023 the Rising Star winner, said. "We did some amazing things with sporting clubs over there, like the Golden State Warriors ... We did a lot of training out at Stanford (University) - that was incredible."

'My life slipped away': ACT star's harrowing ordeal

HOCKEY

Melanie Dinjaski

KALINDI Commerford's life was turned upside down in March from a concussion on the hockey field, but the sport that caused her head knock has helped her find a way to feel "normal" again.

The Canberra Chill star was playing club hockey in Queensland earlier this year when she collided with one of her former Hockeyroo teammates, and with a shoulder to the jaw, she suffered a brutal whiplash concussion.

The eight months since then have been a rollercoaster Commerford could never have imagined.

"I'm still on the ride," Commerford told *The Canberra Times*.

"I've got an appointment in December to see another specialist doctor in Melbourne.

"Basically I need brain rehab, which is what the doctor that I'm going to see provides."

Commerford said she was "fully debilitated" after her concussion.

"I wasn't able to work, I was hardly able to socialise," she said.

"Eventually I slowly built into exercise, starting with a 10 minute walk. Then at about the four-month mark I got cleared to go back to sport and work."

But she knew something wasn't quite right.

Commerford needed sleeping tablets to get her rest, her social life came to a standstill, and at her day job away from hockey as a law graduate with Deloitte, she struggled to concentrate with persistent dizziness.

"The cognitive part of my brain was still healing so after a month I had to stop because my symptoms were just as bad as when

I wouldn't be surprised if in 10-20 years, post-concussion syndrome is taken a bit more seriously. It's really debilitating.

Canberra Chill star Kalindi Commerford

I first got concussed, if not worse," Commerford said.

While her symptoms are now less frequent, they are still present, which is a daunting reality.

"It's become pretty confronting, because I know what I can do, and I know what I should be able to do. But for example, I try and read every day and some days, it's just not possible," she said.

Concussion has become a hot topic in sport, especially in major codes in Australia, as CTE (chronic traumatic encephalopathy) has been proven to be a deadly brain disorder.

Most of the focus for treatment and prevention is for those in elite sport, but weekend athletes who juggle work and sport don't have the same access.

Commerford was, ironically, able to find comfort in hockey.

She didn't think she'd play this year, instead wanting to focus on her career.

But in what became an "isolating period" following her concussion, the 28-year-old eventually found playing in Brisbane and

then with the Canberra Chill an essential part of her rehabilitation.

"It became a really important part of my life," Commerford said.

"It felt normal - like something I could do at full capacity - and the whole time the Hockey ACT community were checking in on me and they supported me financially with some of my medical bills.

"Within the first week at the Chill, it all felt like it was worth it for me and I could have actually stopped after week one and gained enough from it. It's a really special environment.

"I've been a part of a lot of teams and

there's something about Canberra hockey that is unique."

Commerford doesn't think about her concussion while on the field. But she knows it's risky.

"If I get hit on my head again, it's not going to be good for me," she said.

"It's just a risk factor that I have to understand. But I think I just haven't had a good year, to be honest. I felt like my life kind of slipped away from me."

Commerford shared her story on social media channels recently to help spread awareness, and the response was overwhelming.



Samaratunga embracing new challenge

CRICKET

Cameron Mee

JANITH Samaratunga arrived in Canberra tasked with developing the next generation of coaches.

So what better way, he thought, to get a gauge on the existing coaching ranks than to join a club and experience it first hand.

With the urging of some colleagues, Samaratunga became a member of Tuggeranong Valley and made his first grade debut for the club earlier in the season.

It's an interesting transition for someone who played first-class cricket in Sri Lanka before retiring in 2007, but it's one he's thoroughly enjoyed.

"Once I came here I saw everyone engaged in the game, playing whatever grade they can," Samaratunga said. "I thought I should give it a crack.

"At my age, I won't be able to get too serious, it's more about trying to give something back to this community. With the experience I have and a lot

of young players at the club, it's a good opportunity to interact with them and learn from the younger teams."

Samaratunga has spent his life involved with cricket and quickly transitioned to coaching following his first-class retirement. He joined the ICC and was recently in charge of national development at Sri Lanka Cricket.

Midway through last year, Samaratunga decided he was ready for a new challenge and was appointed the Cricket ACT Coach Development Manager.

The role sees Samaratunga mentor coaches across the region as they look to develop the next generation of players.

"The knowledge is already there, it's more about increasing the coaching skills," he said. "Even as coaches we need to keep on learning. If the standard goes up, it's going to help the [current] cricketers.

"In Canberra it's easy to interact with people, we don't have so many layers in between the clubs, which is one of its strengths."



Former Sri Lankan cricketer Janith Samaratunga is loving his new life in Canberra. Picture by Karleen Minney

Canberra coach announces retirement

AFLW: Hawthorn are the fourth club looking for a new senior coach after Bec Goddard (pictured) announced her retirement from the role. The Canberran's surprise departure came two days after the Bulldogs sacked Nathan Burke. Collingwood also did not renew Steve Symonds' contract and Michael Prior left West Coast with two rounds left in the season. Goddard has been one of the AFLW's most important figures, coaching Adelaide to the first premiership in 2017 and also serving on the league competition committee.



Manhole cover halts first Vegas practice

Motor sport: The first Formula One practice of the Las Vegas Grand Prix was halted less than 21 minutes into the session after Carlos Sainz ran over a manhole cover on track. Sainz appeared to run over the cover just nine minutes into the practice on the street course that stretches down the famed Strip. It caused the Ferrari to bottom out and potentially destroyed his engine. The FIA said Sainz hit the concrete frame around a manhole cover and the governing body must now inspect every manhole cover on the course.



Remember this Wonderwoman?: Molly's comeback

RALLY OF CANBERRA

Peter Brewer

THERE is a potential Marvel heroine movie in rally star Molly Taylor.

It wasn't enough that she was the first female to win the Rally of Canberra in 2015 and then the following season, take on a completely male field and win the entire Australian Rally Championship, the first woman to do so in the history of the sport.

Taylor then came back after a massive, bone-rattling 140km/h head-on shunt in 2018 Rally Australia to make the final challenge in the gruelling SAS reality TV show, along the way dragging herself across a steel wire suspended above a watery chasm with a steely determination that left viewers around the country shaking their heads in disbelief.

She then headed to Europe and the Middle East to win the very first Extreme E hydrogen fuel cell-powered 4WD offroad challenge, sharing the car with former F1 driver Nico Rosberg.

Lately she's been commenting motorsport on pay TV but has been itching to return to her first love: forest rallying.

The deal was done about six months ago and she and her small team then frantically set their sights on a

well-engineered Subaru for the final two events of the season: the Adelaide Hills and the Rally of Canberra.

In her comeback rally, she won her production car cup class in the South Australian event - but was almost physically sick in the process.

"We had such a frantic time getting the car ready," she said.

"I think it just all caught up to me at the event. I was nearly throwing-up exhausted.

"But when you put the helmet on again and get back in the car, adrenaline takes over and you find a way to push through it."

Her signature deep blue Subaru Impreza, with the factory's familiar bright yellow starry constellation on the side, was rapid right off the mark in South Australia. The car was built in Tasmania by five-time Targa Tasmania winner Jason White and is arguably the fastest, most lightweight production-based Subaru rally car in the country.

"We had a few teething issues in Adelaide with the traction control system but the team worked through it and we got it done," she said.

The 20-year-old, who has sights set firmly on competing at world championship level, is returning to Australia to do a one-off drive in Canberra.

From fellow athletes, to kids, to parents, Commerford's experience obviously hit a nerve, and she's hopeful it'll lead to greater understanding of concussions.

"The reason I keep posting is because every time I do, I get an influx of messages," she said.

"All of the doctors that I speak to say, 'It's not long term, you should make a full recovery'.

"But I look at myself and the messages I get and I think, 'This is too long'.

"I wouldn't be surprised if in 10-20 years, post-concussion syndrome is taken a bit more seriously. It's really debilitating."

The Canberra Chill travelled interstate to play Hockey Club Melbourne on Friday night ahead of the Hockey One League finals to be held in the capital next weekend, where big crowds are again expected.

The Chill men were already out of finals contention before Friday night after a disappointing season, but a strong crowd turned out in the earlier game in Melbourne to watch the Chill's Indian superstar Rupinder Pal Singh in action.

The Hockey One broadcast experienced a first with such high-profile imports, with the games aired live in Hindi commentary on Seven Plus.

Canberra Chill's Kalindi Commerford has opened up on her concussion battle. The former Hockeyroo has found comfort returning to the field in the Hockey One League. Pictures by Elesa Kurtz, AAP, Sitthixay Dittthavong

What you need to know about the Rally of Canberra

Peter Brewer

THE Subaru Rally of Canberra is back and racing through the forests around the national capital on November 18-19, with 52 cars from all over the country competing over 12 special stages, with two ACT drivers in the frame to win the Australian championship.

Here's some things you may not know about the event.

THE LONGEST-RUNNING RALLY

Canberra has a rich rally heritage, beginning with the Don Capasco rally back in the 1970s. The region has produced some of the best drivers in the country, including four-time national champion Neal Bates. Around 60,000 people in the ACT turned out in 1980

to watch Finnish rally legend and world champion Ari Vatanen compete against local stars Greg Carr and Colin Bond. The "modern" Rally of Canberra started in 1988.

DO ROAD RULES APPLY?

No drivers have exemptions so they drive on the public road and watch their speeds just like anyone else. They can doddle along in a docile manner but most of the cars have competition-specific electronic elements which add engine response, speed and agility.

DESIGNATED 'NO WHEELSPIN'

It is largely for safety reasons. Modern all-wheel drive rally cars can dial up or dial down the amount of wheelspin they need to

maximise their all-important "launch". But too much wheelspin is potentially dangerous because rally officials are at the start control, and the cars may throw large amounts of rocks and debris.

SOME REPAIRS FORBIDDEN

This is both for safety reasons and to stop cheating. Emergency repairs while en route can be performed by the driver or co-driver (such as to prevent overheating, to fix a tyre, or to tape down some bodywork) but only to get to and from the service park.

SPECTATORS CAN HELP

But only if it is not dangerous. Rally organisers hate it but it often happens: a car rolls or goes off the road and can't get back. The

driver and co-driver are strapped into the car with five-point safety harnesses so getting in and out wastes precious seconds. There is usually a one or two-minute gap between cars so often that's enough for a heave-ho from a willing few hands and the crew can be back in the competition.

CARS COST \$400,000

The top AP4 cars, such as the Toyota Yaris cars, driven by Harry and Lewis Bates, are hand-built from scratch. It's a process that takes months. The cars are custom-built for the drivers, too. The steering wheel height and reach, the pedal box travel and location and the seat location are all locked and set for a particular driver. The clutches on these cars are all "button"-type (on or off).

SPORT A.C.T. SPORT HALL OF FAME

'Hockey was dad's life': Beloved legend to be honoured

ASSOCIATE MEMBER - HOCKEY

Melanie Dinjaski



Graham Henstock.
Picture Supplied

GRAHAM 'Joe' Henstock was such a fixture in Canberra's sport scene that going to the shops was anything but simple.

"It was quite an amazing thing to go anywhere with dad because he knew everybody through hockey and sport," Henstock's son also named Graham told *The Canberra Times*.

"There was so much love for him that you'd go out for a trip to the shops and it would take you hours because he'd keep running into people who knew him and wanted to talk to him.

"It's just a sign of the affection that people had for him."

Henstock passed away in January this year, but has been posthumously inducted to the ACT Sport Hall of Fame for his enormous contribution to hockey as an administrator, technical official, team manager, coach and umpire over more than 30 years.

His family said it is an "honour" to have Henstock remembered in such a special way by the sporting community he worked so tirelessly for over decades.

"It's very humbling to see the volume of stuff that he did," his son said.

"Hockey was dad's life. It was his biggest passion, especially in the second half of his life.

"I don't think it was ever about him, it was his passion for the sport that made him really care about everybody who was doing it, and he always wanted to do what he could to assist and support them."

Henstock started in hockey as most do, playing in his teenage years. He used to play at school in Sydney and after joining the Navy in 1963 he continued playing.

When his son then took up the sport, Henstock became more involved, and that led to helping out his wife in the women's hockey space.

From there he fully caught the bug for volunteering and eventually took on administration roles with Tuggeranong Vikings Hockey Club, Hockey ACT and Hockey Australia.

For all Henstock's achievements in hockey he was awarded ACT Volunteer of the Year in 2014, five times he was Hockey ACT Administrator of the Year, and the ACT Women's Masters was renamed in 2017 the Henstock Indoor Carnival.

"I think mum may have eventually come to regret asking him to help out because dad really gave his all to hockey," Henstock junior said.

"My mum would occasionally refer to herself jokingly as a hockey widow.

"The recognition for all those hours he put in, leaves us feeling a great deal of gratitude."



From scraping by to Hall of Fame

FULL MEMBER - ORIENTEERING

Caden Helmers

GRANT Bluett's life was a matter of racing and surviving.

"It was pretty extreme when I look back. I was just living one month at a time wondering when the money was going to come next," Bluett said.

But that's the price you pay when you move to Sweden to pursue life as a professional athlete in orienteering - and Bluett, who is about to be inducted into

the ACT Sport Hall of Fame, wouldn't change a thing.

For six months of the year he was travelling across Europe and Asia, winning races across the world, and for the next six months he was battling to get by.

Bluett started orienteering in Sydney in 1985 and six years later travelled to Berlin for a junior world championship event. From that moment, he was hooked. He moved to Sweden in 1996 - because if he wanted to make a living out of orienteering, that was the place to be.

He would return to Canberra in 2005 with a resume including a World Games triumph in Japan in 2001. It has been hailed as the biggest upset in the history of world-level orienteering, his victory the first ever senior individual medal claimed by a non-European.

"I gave it everything. I probably wouldn't advise anyone to do that these days, but I just had a lot of fun. It wasn't about building wealth or anything like that, it was about trying to do the best I could," Bluett said.

"That's what I was doing at

the time, it was so much fun at the time but God, when I look back at it, I was just scraping by sometimes.

"The first four years I was going all in on the professional athlete side. I was just racing and surviving I suppose. The season is only six months long so you think you're making good money for a little bit, and then the season is over and you have to wait another six months.

"I was doing that at the start, and then I got a job as a coach in what was sort of an equivalent to an AIS program over there.

Students become the teachers as graduates honoured

UC WALK OF FAME

Cameron Mee

PHIL Brown still remembers the day he first walked into the University of Canberra.

It was 1978, and the youngster was wide-eyed and ready for the next stage of his studies. Ten years, and multiple course changes, later he walked out with a sports science degree and a new vision for his life.

Brown completed his studies while playing for the Canberra Cannons and he acknowledges the role the

degree played in setting him up for life as a coach.

Since then, he has developed generations of players at the AIS, including Lauren Jackson and current Capitals coach Kristen Veal.

"It's a great honour," Brown said. "Kudos to UC and what they're doing in their sports programs. It takes me back to the start of my career. Looking to be a professional basketball coach in Australia was not a well-worn pathway.

"Getting a sports science degree here assisted my career

a number of times when applying for coaching roles."

Brown was one of four new additions to the University of Canberra Walk of Fame unveiled on Friday, alongside Melbourne Demons president Kate Roffey, Wallaroos high-performance chief Jaime Fernandez and Paralympian Matt Levy.

While the group has followed divergent paths throughout their careers, they each credit the role UC played in their journey. For Roffey, it instilled a lifelong passion for education.

"We often forget universities create all sorts of opportunities for you to do different things in life," Roffey said. "I started as a biomechanist at the Institute of Sport.

"I don't do that anymore but the basis for study and learning creates the opportunities to allow you to go on and be the president of an AFL club, a CEO of the [Victorian] State Sports Centres Trust or a deputy chancellor of a university, all of which I am now."

The Walk of Fame comes as the university continues to

progress plans for the Sports Hub Two project, which will include a new showpiece arena.

Officials are working on a business case and hope to announce more details once it's complete.

UC Director of Sport Carrie Graff said it's vital to acknowledge the past while continuing to provide new opportunities for current and future students and staff.

"Sport doesn't stop for us," Graff said. "The pillars of our sports strategy are research and education. We're

continuing to grow the sport offerings we have here at UC. UCRISE is our world-class research institute and we're looking to establish a sport integrity research institute that would be a world first.

"In our infrastructure piece, we've got smaller infrastructure we're looking to upgrade. The big piece is putting together a detailed business plan for Sports Hub Two, which would be a multi-use indoor court facility with a high-performance showcourt, particularly focused on women's sport."



Grant Bluett will join the ACT Sport Hall of Fame for his career in orienteering. Picture by Sitthixay Dithavong

I got that job in 2000 and that made it a much more normal, sustainable life with superannuation, salaries and guaranteed income all the time. That made things a lot easier.

"I really gave it everything for eight or nine years. They're great memories. They're distant memories, when I was living over in Sweden, so it's very nice [to be inducted]."

Bluett is hailed as a driving force for Australian orienteering's golden decade, spanning from 1997 to 2007.

He represented Australia at two junior world championships before moving to Canberra in 1992, where he would become a central cog in the ACT's dominance of the national landscape.

Bluett represented Australia at eight world championship events and peaked at ninth in the international rankings. Some feat for a man competing in what is "a very minor sport in Australia".

Bluett and his partner, Shannon Jones, returned to Canberra from Sweden in 2005 and had three kids

who are now following their footsteps into orienteering.

"My kids are really involved now. They're young, they like it. We actually went back to Europe for the first time this year, we went back and raced in Italy and Sweden and showed the kids what it was like," Bluett said.

"That was really fun just introducing them to it in a bigger way. In Canberra, I do it more for the kids. I still keep fit and keep involved. I really hope they can stick with it. We'll keep encouraging and supporting them to do it. It's fun for them."

COACHING LEGEND Brumbies great honoured

Final accolade caps Fisher's commitment to developing stars

ASSOCIATE MEMBER - RUGBY

Cameron Mee

SPEND enough time walking around the ACT's rugby fields throughout the winter and it quickly becomes clear one man is synonymous with the sport in Canberra.

Laurie Fisher.

Whether he's at Brumbies HQ keeping a close eye on the region's elite or at ANU North Oval watching his beloved Uni-Norths Owls, the legendary coach with the bucket hat and wild mane rarely misses a game.

So it's only fitting Fisher has been inducted into the ACT Sports Hall of Fame after more than four decades of contribution to the capital as a player and coach.

It's an honour Fisher holds dearly and comes as he transitions to a new phase of his career after retiring as Brumbies full-time assistant coach this season.



Former Brumbies coach Laurie Fisher. Picture by Karleen Minney

BRUMBIES COACH

Fisher has been part of the furniture at the Brumbies since 2000 when he took charge of the club's academy, before being promoted to forward's coach of the top squad in 2003.

In 2005 he became the first Canberra product to coach the team, an achievement he remains proud of to this day.

"Once the game went professional, I had an aspiration to coach professionally and become the first Canberra-born Brumbies head coach," Fisher said. "It's a piece of history that can't be beaten."

"You can only be the first once, I'm proud I was the first Canberra born and bred person to lead the organisation. Often people overlook their own backyard and I worked hard on my craft to be considered good enough at that level."

Fisher helped the Brumbies claim the 2004 Super 12 title and the 2020 Super Rugby AU crown. He was also involved in the run to the 2013 final. He has enjoyed stints overseas and last year made the long-awaited step up to the Wallabies staff.

Fisher has coached some of the sport's biggest names, from Stephen Larkham and George Gregan in the early years to Allan Alaalatoa and Nic White more recently.

Fisher's biggest satisfaction, however, has come from nurturing the uncut gems into polished stars.

"I look at players like Andy Muirhead who come in with ambition and over the course of time turn into wonderful Super Rugby players. I like the guys who come in on the ground floor and being involved in making them better each year."

DEVELOPING FUTURE STARS

While he has finished his full-time role at the Brumbies, Fisher remains committed to mentoring the sport's future stars.

The coach has signed on as Uni-Norths coaching director and was recently unveiled as the Junior Wallabies assistant coach.

While rugby is in a tough place in Australia, Fisher is eager to play a role in rebuilding the sport.

"You have more opportunity to influence younger players and influence them in a positive way," he said. "If you can make a person better, a forward pack better, a team better or the world a better place, you've got a role to play in that."

"I don't want to walk away and say 'that's it'. I want to help coaches and young players in whatever way I can. While I've got the energy and desire to do that, I'm keen to do it."

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TALES FROM A SPORTING NATION

9 JUN — 28 JAN



Cometh the hour, cometh Captain Cummins the batter - again

WORLD CUP

PAT Cummins has once again proved he's the man for a batting crisis.

Five months on from his Ashes heroics at Edgbaston and a week after partnering with Glenn Maxwell to steer Australia home against Afghanistan, Cummins

has done it again against South Africa.

This time, Australia's captain was only required to add 20 runs for the eighth wicket on Thursday with Mitchell Starc, but those runs couldn't have been harder to glean on a spinner's wicket in Kolkata - and with a World Cup final

place at stake. Brought to the crease at Eden Gardens with the ball spinning and Proteas quick Gerald Coetzee on a roll, Australia were a real chance of falling out of the World Cup.

The situation looked dicey at 7-193 with no recognised batters left.

Cummins, though, is playing with all the composure of a genuine batsman this year.

He and Starc soaked up 45 balls to get the required 20, working singles and only taking on the very loose deliveries.

Cummins was dropped with nine runs still to go, but

kept his calm and fittingly hit the cut shot to the boundary off Marco Jansen to get Australia home.

"I think it's easier out there than sitting in the dugout," Cummins, who finished 14 not out, quipped afterwards.

"It was a nerve-wracking couple of hours."

With Nathan Lyon at Edgbaston in the first Ashes Test, the 55 Australia required with two wickets in hand looked almost impossible.

Last week, his contribution to an 202-run unbeaten eighth-wicket stand with Maxwell was a World Cup record.

Aussies inflict more misery on Proteas

WORLD CUP

IT'S happened again to South Africa.

Once more, the semifinals proved to be the ceiling for the Proteas at the Cricket World Cup.

And once again, the knockout blow was delivered by Australia, whose ability to rise to the occasion on the biggest stage in limited-overs cricket remains unmatched - and in such contrast to South Africa's failings.

There was no choking - the word that is synonymous, perhaps harshly, with South Africa at World Cups - in this tense three-wicket loss at Eden Gardens on Thursday.

Yet it was still a fifth semi-final elimination in this tournament - after 1992, 1999, 2007 and 2015. Three of those painful exits have now come at the hands of Australia.

In 2007, the collapse came early in St. Lucia when the Proteas fell to 5-27 after choosing to bat, and eventually lost by seven wickets.

And there were some similarities to 2007 in Thursday's painful loss as they slumped to 4-24 amid brilliant swing and seam bowling from Josh Hazlewood and Mitchell Starc.

David Miller, with a determined innings of 101, guided the team to 212 all out, but it needed a near-flawless performance in the field to hold back the Australians.

That didn't happen.

Pacer Marco Jansen bowled three wides in a four-ball span in the third over of the reply, and Kagiso Rabada gave David Warner a free hit because of a no-ball - and saw the veteran opener use it to smash him for a second straight six.

Travis Head was dropped by both sub fielder Reeza Hendricks and Heinrich Klaasen in the space of 14 balls.

Four overs later, de Kock, the wicketkeeper, couldn't hold onto Steve Smith's edge off spinner Tabraiz Shamsi. There were four dropped catches in total.



South Africa captain Temba Bavuma reflects on a near-miss in the field during their World Cup loss. Picture AP

They were outstanding for a large part of the game today and thoroughly deserved the victory.

Temba Bavuma

It made the late-innings comeback all the more infuriating for South Africa's fans as spinners Shamsi and Keshav Maharaj tied

down Australia's batters on a pitch that spun plenty.

"It was a bit of dogfight," captain Temba Bavuma said. "Looking at the result of the game, the way we started with the bat and the ball was probably the turning point and where we lost it quite badly."

In the end, South Africa will rue the fact that their powerful batting line-up - one that struck fear into opponents for much of the group stage - failed to fire.

"They were outstanding for a large part of the game today and thoroughly deserved the victory," Bavuma said of Australia.

"I thought Hazlewood and Starc were

ruthless. They exploited every bit of advantage that was presented to them and really put us under pressure. When you are 4-24, you are always going to struggle to get a competitive total."

South Africa coach Rob Walter was "incredibly proud" of the team's fight and said he did think the "choker" tag applies to them.

"It's obviously gutting to lose a semi-final. But I'm incredibly proud of the fight shown by the lads," Walter told reporters.

"For me there's nothing even remotely close to a choke that happened out there today."

Jonassen studies the master Jadeja ahead of India Test

INDIA TOUR

LEFT-ARM spinner Jess Jonassen has been studying master of the art Ravindra Jadeja closely ahead of Australia's women's cricket Test against India next month.

India will host Australia in a Test on home soil for the first time since 1984 from December 21 in Mumbai and the 31-year-old Jonassen is leaving no stone unturned in her quest to make the most of the opportunity.

Jonassen was named for Australia - along with fellow

spinners Ashleigh Gardner, Alana King and Georgia Wareham - in the squad for the three-format tour that will also include three ODIs and T20s

On Wednesday, Jonassen became the first player to pass 150 wickets in the WB-BL, with her 4-20 for Brisbane Heat in the 53-run win over Hobart Hurricanes taking the veteran's tally to 152.

Indian left-arm Jadeja is a regular for India in all three formats and Jonassen is a student of his wily ways.

"Jadeja has just got incred-

ible control of his pace into the same length. His ability to beat both sides of the bat is probably second to none," Jonassen told AAP.

"That is something I will be hoping to emulate myself when I can get over there to India. Hopefully I can have a few spells like he has had in his Test career."

"I used to watch a lot of (former New Zealand spinner) Dan Vettori but in the current climate Jadeja is the bowler I look to. I have been watching him in the 50-over World Cup in India."

"It is a bit different in the sense that (the men) bowl a bit quicker than we do but in some respects it is still very similar with what I am trying to execute and achieve."

Jonassen acknowledged competition for spinning spots on tour would be intense.

"Whenever (selection) becomes official it is always exciting and I am really proud to be part of such an historic trip," she said. "We have some really talented spinners in the squad and we are all hoping to get the nod."



Australia's Jess Jonassen has been studying the genius of Ravindra Jadeja ahead of the India tour. Picture AAP

Lolesio open to France return as he weighs up his future

RUGBY UNION

Caden Helmers

NOAH Lolesio "would very much like to come back to France" when his Super Rugby deal expires as Stephen Larkham admits the ACT Brumbies could battle to retain the Test-capped flyhalf.

Lolesio's World Cup joker deal with Toulon will end this weekend following a clash with Clermont at Stade Marcel-Michelin, with the 23-year-old due back at Brumbies headquarters on November 27.

Toulon attempted to keep Lolesio for another month after Welsh international Dan Biggar suffered a back injury.

But Lolesio will return to Canberra to begin pre-season training as he enters the final year of his deal with the Brumbies before hitting the open market.

"He is obviously doing some pretty good things in France at the moment," Larkham said.

"I saw an article there where his coach was very happy with his performances and wants him to stay over there. We might have a little battle there to try and get him back."

The Brumbies could struggle to retain the Test-capped playmaker who found himself on a Wallabies carousel during Dave Rennie's reign as Australian coach before being overlooked by Eddie Jones ahead of a disastrous World Cup campaign.

Lolesio flirted with a move to Japan before re-signing with the Brumbies, and now a taste of life in France could be enough to convince him to leave Australian shores.

The flyhalf says he will wait to see how the Super Rugby season pans out before considering staying in Canberra, returning



Brumbies star Noah Lolesio is set to return from a stint in France in the coming weeks. Picture by Sitthixay Dithavong

to France or heading elsewhere - though "if the planets are aligned", Lolesio would not rule out a return to Toulon, whose first-choice No.10 Biggar is 34 years old.

"I have one year left with the Brumbies. This experience in Toulon really opened me up to the world. I didn't think I would say this before coming here, but I am now open to anything," Lolesio told Midi Olympique, with an excerpt shared by Toulon.

"We will see how my season goes with the Brumbies in Super Rugby. Then, I'll see if I stay in Canberra, if I come back to France, or even if I'll go elsewhere. But, if the planets are aligned, I would very much like to come back to France.

"It's sad that it's ending, it's hard to tell myself that I got attached in five months. Whether in a year, five years or ten years, I would like to relive an experience like the one I just had. It was an incredible

If the planets are aligned, I would very much like to come back to France.

Noah Lolesio

life experience. I really enjoyed the time I spent here."

Rugby Australia's search for a new Wallabies coach could have an impact on Lolesio's future, as he prepares to compete with Jack Debrincini for the Brumbies' No.10 jersey.

Larkham refused to rule out the possibility of coaching Australia after Jones walked out on the Wallabies 10 months into a five-year deal, while ex-Brumbies mentor Dan McKellar - who brought Lolesio into

Super Rugby - has also emerged as a leading contender for the role.

Larkham says he would love to be involved in an Australian rugby resurgence but is adamant his primary focus is on the Brumbies' bid to win a Super Rugby title after another semi-final exit this year.

The Brumbies mentor hopes Lolesio returns from Toulon a better player in a bid to realise that ambition.

"I think it's like any program that's not our program, you're picking up different experiences, you're working with different players and different coaches," Larkham said.

"We'd encourage all the guys who have gone out to NPC, to club rugby here in Canberra, to club rugby elsewhere, and the guys who have gone over to France to bring back any knowledge they have got from over there and see if we can put some of it into our program here to make us better."

One more big hurdle for CHN to cross

RUGBY LEAGUE

David Polkinghorne

COREY Harawira-Naera's taken a step in the right direction, but he's not "out of the shit" just yet.

The versatile Canberra Raiders forward is mindful of not getting his hopes up too soon, but he's tracking in the right direction towards a return to training.

His troponin levels, a heart enzyme marker, have returned to normal, but he's having a loop recorder inserted below his skin to check on any "funky" heart rhythms before getting cleared.

Harawira-Naera's had a frustrating time since his frightening seizure on the field during the Raiders' win over South Sydney at Homebush in May. Almost six months later and he's still waiting to be cleared - although he's come to terms



Raiders forward Corey Harawira-Naera has taken a step towards returning to training. Picture by Sitthixay Dithavong

with the wait to make sure neither he nor his family ever have to go through it again.

The positive news comes as the Raiders moved to get salary cap dispensation for him just in case. Fingers

crossed they won't need it, but the Raiders have begun the application process after the NRL were receptive to getting salary cap relief for Harawira-Naera's ongoing battle to return to the field.

The 28-year-old still can't join the majority of Canberra's squad when they begin pre-season training on Monday. But, after some tough times mentally earlier this year as he remained in med-

ical limbo, Harawira-Naera has made peace with the lengthy process.

"I don't want to get my hopes up too early ... but everything's tracking in the right direction, which is positive," he told *The Canberra Times*. "It's in the safe zone now [the troponin levels]. It's not out of the shit, but it's in the safe zone where [the cardiologist is] happy for me to tick that box, which is good."

"I don't want to get my hopes up, but I'm still optimistic as well."

"We've got one more big hurdle to cross and then once that's cleared I'm guessing from the chat I've had with her she should be pretty happy with me to start some kind of training."

"I've known in myself I'll be fine, but I've got to make sure - not just for me, but for everyone else, especially my family and little one,

they don't see anything like that again."

As a back-up, the Raiders have spoken to the NRL about the possibility of getting salary cap relief - similar to St George Illawarra getting dispensation for Cody Ramsey. Ramsey hasn't played since 2022 due to ulcerative colitis illness, but it's believed they weren't able to find a suitable replacement so didn't end up using it.

The Raiders were still hopeful it wouldn't be needed, but if his frustrating saga continued indefinitely then the Raiders want to have everything in place so they can bring in a replacement.

"Yes we will be submitting one and when we discussed it with [the NRL] they seemed to think it was a fair and reasonable request and we'll see what comes of it," Raiders chief executive Don Furner said.

The Canberra Times

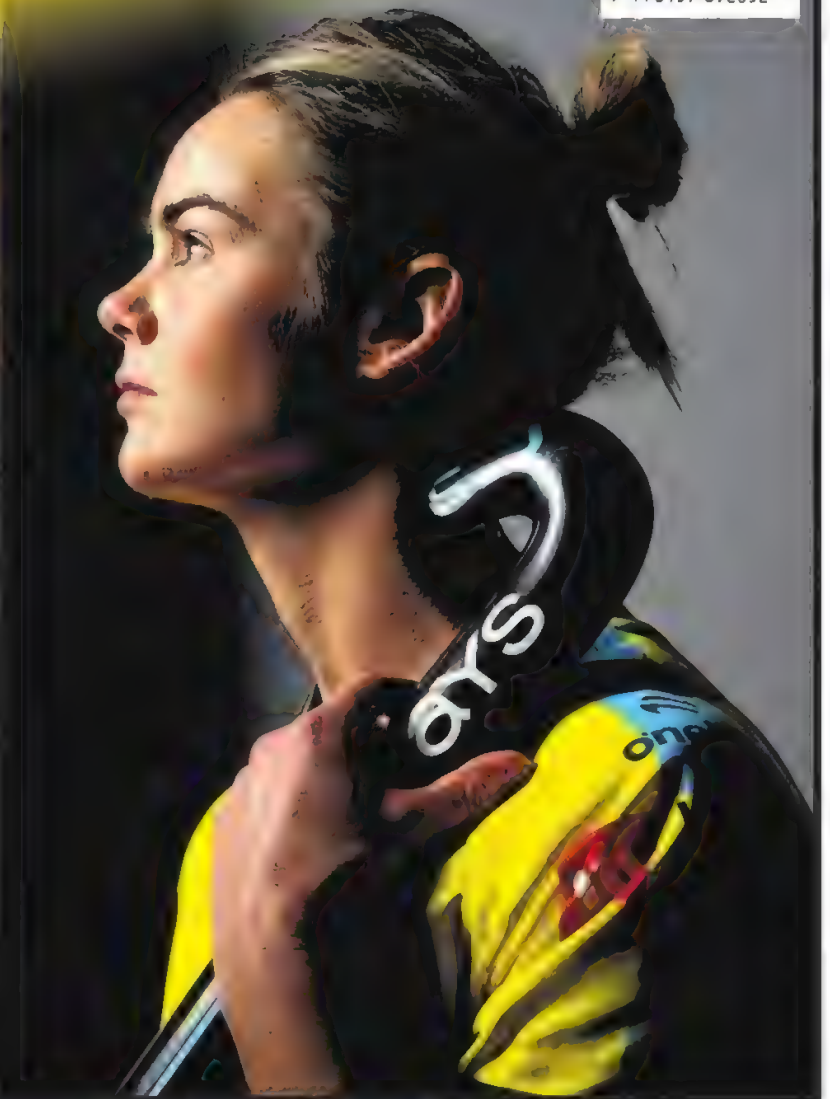
SPORT



'MY LIFE WAS SLIPPING AWAY'

Former Hockeyroo Kaitiaki Curran lived with an incurable brain tumour for years, and the devastating impact it has had on her life.

HOCKEY: PAGES 66-67

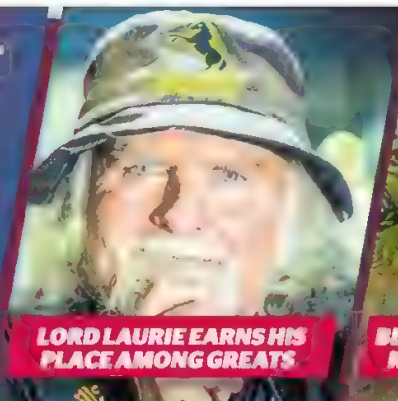


Picture by Elesa Kurtz

ACT SPORT HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

An eclectic trio have been added to a list of Canberra's greatest sporting heroes.

PAGES 68-69



LORD LAURIE EARNS HIS PLACE AMONG GREATS



BLUETT'S EXTREME LIFE OF RACING AND SURVIVING



JOE'S POSTHUMOUS HONOUR

Raiders star in medical limbo

RUGBY LEAGUE

David Polkinghorne

RAIDERS back-rower Corey Harawira-Naera admits he's racing the clock to be fit for the 2024 season, revealing he is still waiting for a medical clearance to make an NRL comeback.

Speaking to *The Canberra Times* on Friday, Harawira-Naera said he was "tracking in the right direction",

but his health is being constantly monitored almost six months after his on-field seizure rocked the competition.

The Raiders have started the application process to seek salary cap dispensation in case Harawira-Naera is unable to play, but the club and the 28-year-old are hopeful he will be given the all clear soon. "I'm not out of the shit yet," he said.

Full story: Page 71

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November 18, 2023

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A MAP OF SOUTH JERRABOMBERRA AT TRALEE

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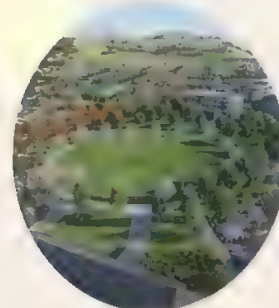
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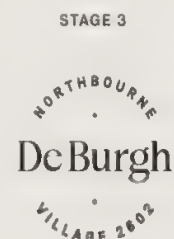
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THIS WEEKEND

Words by Laura Valic

Note from the editor



We all know house trends come and go (remember kitchen carpet?) and there are rules designers follow because, from their experience, they lead to better outcomes. But following the rules – or perhaps skirting around or bending them – should be about achieving a home you want to live in. This is why we love our Dream Homes listing this week. The incredible Jindabyne property features playful quirks, such as a fireman's pole and gymnastics rings, which were clearly incorporated for the family to have fun. As the selling agent says, the home would make a remarkable family retreat. Our Interiors story dives into how one designer sympathetically reimaged a Tuscan-style residence that is versatile enough to stand the test of time. Simply stunning.

Laura

Laura Valic

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Gungahlin

Unit 19, 11 Camilleri Way

\$639,900

2 2 2 EER 6.5

Private sale

Agent: Morris Property Group,

Michael Morris 0419 888 627

In the fast-growing Gungahlin region, this new and affordable two-bedroom apartment in the Amici complex boasts a number of enviable features, such as double-glazed windows for energy efficiency, as well as access to a communal gym and outdoor barbecue area. A large balcony overlooks a nature reserve and the Brindabellas, while the open-plan layout is stylish and functional. The main bedroom connects to both an en suite and a balcony.



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Barton

12 Belmore Gardens
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5 6 2 1 EER 2.5

Private sale

Agent: Hayman Partners,
Shane Killalea 0412 152 607

This extended 1928 home combines a charming character facade and a spacious floor plan with a large 978-square-metre block. It offers a rare opportunity to buy into this exclusive location, just one street back from Telopea Park. Internal features include French doors, original fireplaces and cornices, and timber floors. With formal entertaining rooms, a large backyard and an in-ground pool, there's plenty of room for growing families to spread out.



LAST WEEKEND

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Source: Domain Group

INSIDE A SALE



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88 Barr Smith Avenue

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July 1996

"Owned by the seller for 27 years, the home featured a prized elevated position and densely planted, low-maintenance gardens. The vendor put a great deal of effort into the presentation of the home, which paid off."

Gillian Thorn
Blackshaw Manuka

Googong

1 Rockley Parade
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5 6 2 2

Private sale

Agent: Belle Property Queanbeyan,
Aaron Papahatzis 0419 683 599

Discover modern family-friendly living at its finest at this two-storey property close to parks, tennis courts and a shopping precinct. It offers a picture-perfect facade and landscaped gardens with a tasteful and well-finished internal design that includes multiple living areas and a private main-bedroom suite downstairs. High ceilings and windows allow for an abundance of natural light, while the contemporary kitchen has easy access to two alfresco areas.



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HOME OF THE WEEK

Words by Rosalie Iannelli



A house that's full of surprises

Canberra is great at hiding some of its property gems, and 15 Landsborough Street is one of the most unassuming homes you'll find. Sure, the facade alludes to something special, but you can't quite anticipate just how spectacular this home is until you're invited inside.

The grand entrance hall with towering ceilings is only the beginning, but it sure sets the tone.

Further in, you'll find three living areas, plus a separate rumpus room, a private guest suite with a walk-in wardrobe and en suite, and three more bedrooms. And that's just the ground floor.

The main bedroom suite occupies the entire top floor. It's one of the best you'll

find in Canberra, in small part thanks to the enormous en suite and walk-in robe, but in large part due to the steam room and above-ground outdoor bath, which sits on a private balcony for bathing under the stars.

The basement level is full of surprises, with the most impressive wine cellar – which holds over 2000 bottles – sitting at the ready to host wine tastings in stunning surroundings.

Adjacent is a dedicated cinema room, a gym, an eight-car garage and a showroom for your most prized vehicle.

A heated pool caps off this incredible home, accompanied by an alfresco entertaining area with a built-in lounge for easy entertaining. **h**

Griffith

15 Landsborough Street
\$6 million+

5 3 8 EER 4

Private sale

Agent: Berkely Residential,
Michael Lyrstakis 0422 633 490

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with the Allhomes app
to view listing

What the agent says



Michael Lyrstakis
Berkely Residential

"No. 15 Landsborough has been carefully thought out in its design, focusing on a balance between living areas, bedrooms and specialty rooms, such as the wine cellar, cinema, gym and car display room. Quite a rare offering."

RECENT SALES

\$2.25 million

128 Carnegie Crescent, November

\$3.25 million

47/18 Austin Street, November

\$1.9 million

21 Hodgkinson Street, October

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centobraddon.com.au

HIVE





LA DOLCE VITA The newest ceramics collection from Australian brand Alex and Trahanas is an ode to Italy's dining rituals: cooking up feasts, setting the table, and sharing meals in dreamy outdoor settings. Pieces are handcrafted and painted in Puglia using traditional designs. alexandtrahanas.com



HOMEWARES

Words by **Amelia Barnes**



CHISELLED FEATURES Neighbourhood Studio creates natural limestone sculptures and hybrid objects. Carved using basic hand tools, the studio's one-of-a-kind lamps, vases and decorative sculptures are made entirely by founder Lucas Wearne in his Melbourne workshop. neighbourhd.com

Made by hand

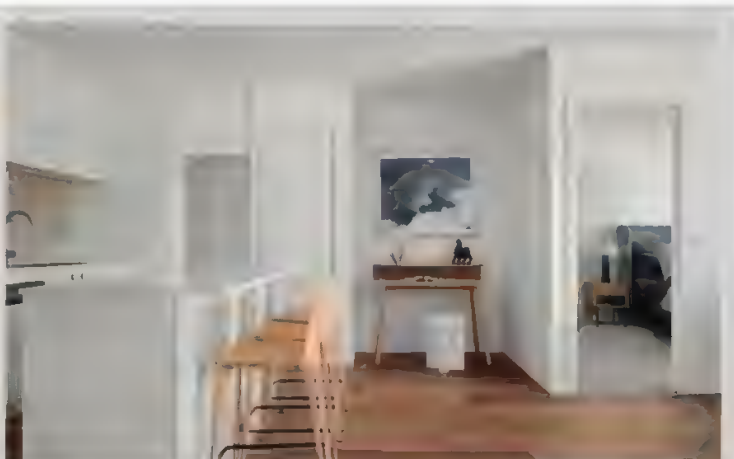
Support traditional craftsmanship and local designers with these handmade pieces.



CHECK IT OUT Introducing the first furniture and lighting pieces in TS Makers' line of timber products. The Check Mate Rectangular Table Lamp is an extension of the local brand's popular chequered chopping board featuring a contrasting base of expertly joined blackbutt and spotted gum. tsmakers.com.au



GOOD ENOUGH TO EAT Nonna's Grocer's fruit and vegetable candles are often mistaken for the real deal. The Sydney-based brand, owned by sisters Madeleine and Isabel Hoy, hand-makes and fills all its candle moulds in-house. Each candle is carved and buffed to mimic genuine produce. nonnagrocer.com



INTERIORS

Words by Elizabeth Clarke • Photos by Dave Wheeler

An exciting take on Tuscany

Original design for a house in a new development
that will provide the way of life for the future

civium



A reimagined Tuscan-style home perches on the side of a cliff in Vaucluse just steps away from one of Australia's oldest lighthouses. Beautifully elevated, it breathes in pristine views of the harbour, bridge and the Blue Mountains.

Designer Shona McElroy from Smac Studio's first reaction when she visited the property was "pure love".

"The previous owner was an architect who built it for his family in the '70s after a trip to Tuscany," she says. "It felt important to honour his vision and preserve the Italian spirit of the house."

The new owners wanted large, melded spaces filled with natural light and elegance. Fortunately, the front of the house presented the designer with graceful architectural elements to find her inspiration.

"The formal entry, sweeping staircase, double void and arched windows looking out to the lighthouse were all there," she recalls. "The layout at the rear, however, needed to be opened right up."

The extensive renovation saw three small rooms rejigged into an expansive kitchen, living and dining area. The rear wall was moved for more internal space.

The foyer's original verdi alpi stone floor was modernised with a chequerboard pattern comprising the same stone alternated with Carrara marble. The original arched windows alongside new sleek black steel balustrades provide graphic definition to the space.

The lime-washed orange walls and angular staircase have been smoothed



with Venetian plaster, and the staircase's curves create an architectural hug.

"The light-filled space full of soft white curves draws the eye up to a floating cloud-like chandelier," McElroy says.

"It's a heavenly sense of arrival."

Each space is calm and luminous, allowing the beauty of crafted surfaces, materials and finishes to stand out.

Combining elements into a seamless whole sums up McElroy's technique of



Above: The walk-in wardrobe is one of the designer's favourite spaces

Left: A cloud-like chandelier reflects the white of the lighthouse next door.

blending materials and design features into something new and exciting.

"I love different layers, materials and the shifts of light you experience as you move through the spaces," she says.

The kitchen's original U-shape configuration in dark mahogany was enlarged and reorientated towards the living spaces.

Its fresh, mid-tone timber veneer cabinetry with datum lines meshes the nostalgic and the contemporary.

Arabescato stone and a curved plaster range hood add luxury, while open shelves imbue personality into the space.

Beautiful lighting features in every space. Here, simple brass folded wall sconces by Kelly Wearstler flank the range hood, and a trio of glass Articolo pendants floats above the island.

"Each light is an art object during the day, and at night, creates a soft, ambient, romantic glow," the designer says.

The formal spaces' once dark timber portals are now wrapped in arabescato marble, creating an elegant entrance into the dining and cigar room. In the latter, a grey-green tone lines the walls, and the bar's bronze veneer and marble splashback add layers of decadence.

The living room revolves around its original fireplace and leans on mid-century style with caramel tones, leather sofas and sculptural forms.

One of the designer's favourite spaces is the walk-in wardrobe with double doors to the en suite. With twin marble-topped islands and automatic lighting in the cabinetry, McElroy says it feels like a high-end fashion boutique. "It's incredibly atmospheric and fun!"

McElroy is known for her glamorous powder rooms, and this one does not disappoint. "It's a beautiful space but also represents the most dramatic version of the home's theme," she says of the room swathed in marble and golden grasscloth wallpaper.

"Of all the homes I have designed, this is the one that epitomises the way I love to live," she says. "It will still look great in 30 years, yet its formal spaces, symmetry and palette allow it the flexibility to change its style over time." **h**

"I love different layers, materials and the shifts of light you experience as you move through the spaces." Shona McElroy

THE GRAYSON

5 Townhouse
Development in Hackett

SECTION 33/10/2017

Brand New 2 Bedroom Townhouses - Move In Now!

The Grayson townhouses are newly built, modern, single-level homes nestled within a secluded street in the heart of Canberra. They feature open-plan living, spacious outdoor areas, and an option for two-post-adaptable townhouses.

Josh Finnigan
0431 023 199

Joshua Fife
0423 313 650



DREAM HOMES

Words by Ray Sparvell



Wide vistas: Expansive views are framed throughout the property, while its interiors pay tribute to considered, yet creative, design thinking.

Inside, imagination has been given free rein, delivering a home with genuine warmth. It's an eclectic showpiece for sure, but utterly brilliant while also satisfyingly functional and, ultimately, successful as a forever family home.

Michael Henley of Henley Property says it is one of the best he has ever seen or represented. "It's a beautiful home and also ... unique. I've never seen anything like it in some 20 years," he says.

"The owner is a builder by trade and this home represents all his best ideas expressed in one remarkable form."

Henley says every aspect has been considered in exacting detail and realised through inspired choices of materials and finishes.

Spread over three levels, this property – with floor-to-ceiling glass windows tying them all together – draws in abundant natural light while embracing endless rural views. Material selections were focused on recycling. The two-storey fireplace is built from stone sourced from the property, and exposed steel beams have been retrieved from a mine.

Drawing your eye above are timber-lined feature ceilings, which help to counterbalance the cooler tones of the industrial-style catwalk and polished concrete floors underfoot (complete with hydronic heating). The main bedroom suite – off the open-plan living area – enjoys a massive walk-in wardrobe, an indulgent en suite and outdoor access.

But the hub of the home is that expansive living-kitchen-dining area, the latter

Alpine views and imagination

Every now and then, a home comes to market that defies description, and even the most dizzying of accolades fall short of doing it justice.

This masterpiece on The Snowy River Way, just eight minutes from Jindabyne, is one of those.

Let's start with its most playful elements: a trapeze net strung from the upper

mezzanine level, gymnastic still rings, and a fireman's pole that delivers the slider into the dining area.

But don't be distracted by the novelties – this is a confident residence at one with its stunning alpine location, and it's one of the most liveable homes that you will ever find. The property occupies a commanding position on more than

40 hectares of land with stunning, unparalleled views across the Snowy Mountains beyond.

From the outside, its north-facing, contemporary design – which artfully fuses stone, timber, steel and glass – seems to be built into the backdrop hillside, no doubt to shelter it from chilly winter blasts.

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Jindabyne

7783 The Snowy River Way
\$3.5 million-\$3.7 million

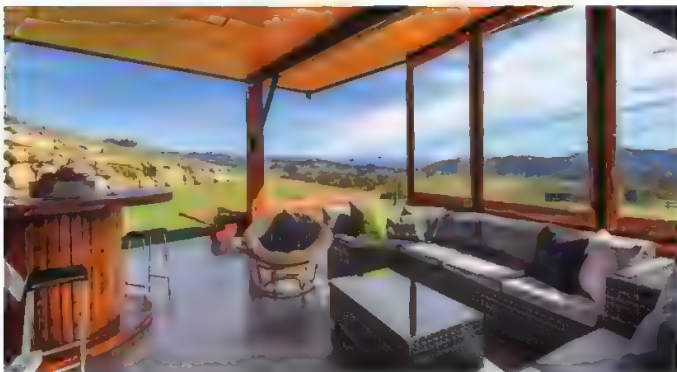
4 4 8

Private sale

Agent: Henley Property,
Michael Henley 0403 165 563

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"The owner is a builder by trade and this home represents all his best ideas expressed in one remarkable form." Michael Henley



highlighted by a chandelier crafted with dropped antlers. The contemporary kitchen has glazed black custom cabinets and a timber waterfall island. The butler's pantry has a second dishwasher.

Bedrooms are distributed across both levels. The ground floor offers a main bedroom with a walk-in wardrobe and en suite, plus another bedroom. The top floor is a teenage dream. One bedroom has access to the circus net, the other has a kitchenette and lounging area – and the fireman's pole. Both have en suites.

Outside, the entertaining area features a partially enclosed patio with a built-in barbecue. There's an in-ground spa with decking and an in-ground trampoline.

Vehicles can be housed in a double garage and spacious carport, while a free-standing shed offers more storage and a self-contained three-bedroom guest retreat. There's also a barn with two storage shipping containers.

Henley says the home would make a remarkable family retreat with plenty of room for visiting friends. **h**

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HOW IT SOLD

Words by Laura Valic



Hall

39 Palmer Street

5 6 3 2 EER 4

SOLD November 4

\$3.29m

Josh Morrissey

Hive Property

"[Hall] is a tightly held suburb, so as soon as it launched we were inundated with enquiries."

A home in Canberra's tightly held community of Hall sold for \$3.29 million under the hammer on November 4, setting a new price record for the suburb.

The five-bedroom, three-bathroom property at 39 Palmer Street beat the previous record by more than \$1 million. It last sold in 2003 for \$630,000.

Auctioneer and selling agent Josh Morrissey of Hive Property says potential buyers were attracted by the home's location opposite bushland and its amenities, such as a pool and tennis

court, on more than 2000 square metres of land.

"[Hall] is a tightly held suburb so as soon as it launched we were inundated with enquiries," he says.

Out of six registered bidders, three hashed it out on the day in increments of \$50,000 and then \$25,000.

Morrissey says the purchasing price was above the feedback he had received during the campaign and was "a good result for the sellers".

He adds that interest was fuelled by the fact only one other house in Hall had been placed on the market this year – a property at 7 Gladstone Street, which sold for \$1.5 million in July.

There were 145 homes scheduled for auction in Canberra for the week to November 5, which was down slightly from the previous week.

Allhomes data shows there was a 50.3 per cent clearance rate of residential listings in October, down 1.4 per cent from September.

Morrissey says the increase in listings across the city means buyers have the "opportunity to be more diligent and look around".



"If you're a buyer, you have more to choose from at the moment as there are lots of different options in different areas," he says.

"[Some people are] moving to areas they weren't originally looking at because they're seeing good value there.

"I think, as we head towards the end of the year, sellers should keep in mind that they need to listen to the market every week as it tends to change quickly, given the amount of stock coming out.

"This is making it competitive for buyers who now have more choice." **h**





10A PARKER STREET CURTIN



A stone's throw from Curtin shops, this fully renovated home will excite families looking for quality and location. Sun-soaked family room with views to Parliament House, lounge dining, kitchen, plus alfresco for entertaining. Spacious private master with stunning ensuite. Meticulous craftsmanship on display throughout. EER 6.0

Auction On site 12:30pm Saturday 2nd Dec
Inspect Contact Agent
Office Gungahlin 6241 9444
Agent Thom Eriksson Lake 0417 194 699
 Geraldine Rutherford 0412 060 792



4 WICKHAM CRESCENT RED HILL



We are pleased to announce the successful sale of this beautiful character filled residence of rare distinction which was enjoyed by the sellers for nearly 60 years. 4 Wickham Crescent achieved a new ACT auction record.

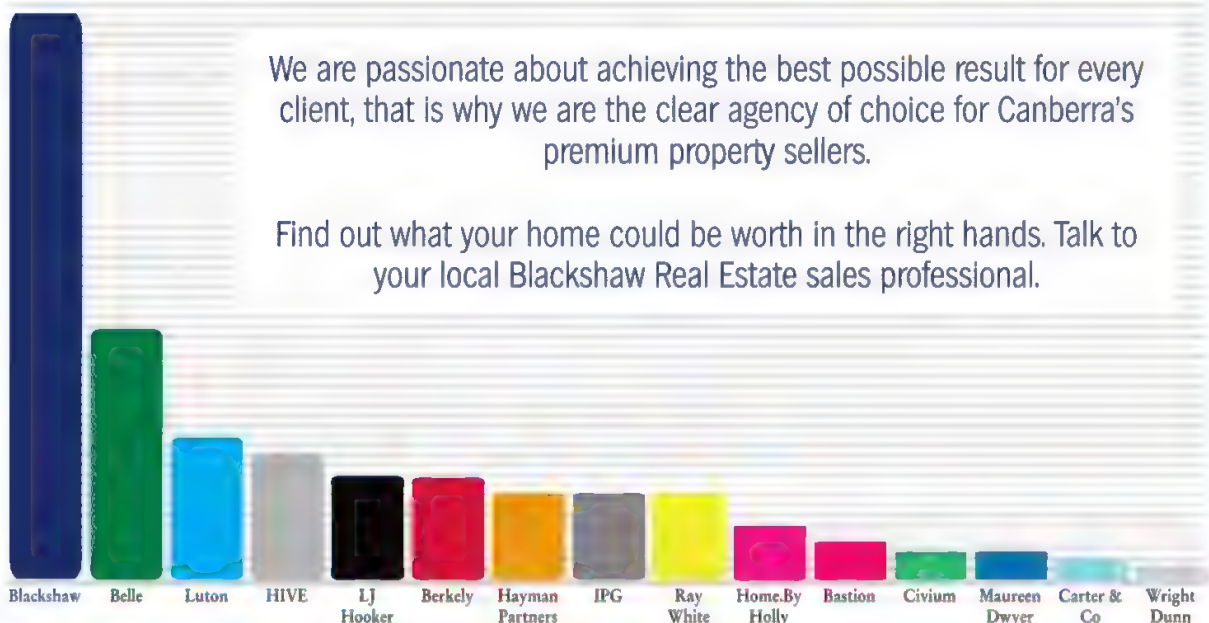
Sold ACT auction record
Office Manuka 6295 2433
Agent Mario Sanfrancesco 0412 488 027

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*Source: APM Pricerfinder, althomes.com.au, zango.com.au, internal data. Canberra sales \$2 million and above since 2019 - top 15 agencies. As at 30 September 2023

B

Falconer
6147 3394

Kay & Inner Nod
6183 6533

Coates
6172 4748

Gungahlin
6241 9444

Manuka
6295 2433

Project
6260 6400

Ch. E. Jerrabomberra
6297 0005

Taggeranong
6296 7077

Thomas & E. Molong
6288 5009

Woden
6282 8484



68 Bendigo Street, Fisher.

Commanding Position with Views and Stunning Renovations

This one will take your breath away. On a large block, spoiled with picturesque views of rolling hills and Black Mountain you will never want to leave. Tastefully renovated throughout with gorgeous and contemporary finishes in every space, landscaped from front to back, there are a multitude of attractive outdoor spaces to enjoy all year round and a wonderful secure backyard for pets and children.

belleproperty.com

Auction

Wednesday 29 November
5.30pm On Site

View

Saturday 18 November
12.15pm - 12.45pm

4 2 2 933 EER 1.0

Amy Wilson | 0405 130 332
Alexander Anlezark | 0403 221 667

belle
PROPERTY



41 Lindbeck Corner, Googong.

Bespoke Googong Family Entertainer

Generously designed with both relaxed family living and enviable entertaining in mind, this premier home will impress from front door to back fence, all perfectly positioned in the thriving Googong community, adjacent to schools and mere minutes from local shops, shopping, and the Googong Foreshore.

Auction

Tuesday 5 December
6.00pm On Site

View

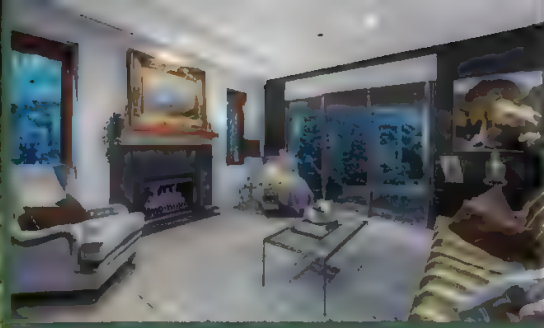
Saturday 18 November
11.30am - 12.00pm

4 2 4 576

Aaron Papahatzis | 0419 683 599
Will Peterson | 0481 571 404

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PROPERTY

belleproperty.com



33A Golden Grove, Red Hill.

Separate Title Family Home With Stately Appeal

Secluded behind three-metre hedges and privately positioned on the lovely Golden Grove, this updated home presents an understated facade with cedar timber windows, Boston Ivy and a tranquil front entrance. Offering formal and casual living areas in a contemporary layout whilst double glazed glass doors create a flow from indoor to outdoor living.

belleproperty.com

Auction

Saturday 2 December

10.30am On Site

View

Saturday 18 November

1.00pm - 2.30pm

4 2 2 820

Alexander Smout | 0421 148 706

Ahmad Souweid | 0404 401 068



Upcoming auctions.

Address	Suburb	Date	Time	Location			
74 National Circuit	Deakin	Saturday 18 November	10.30am	On Site	3	1	2
69 Captain Cook Crescent	Griffith	Saturday 18 November	11.00am	On Site	4	3	1
25 Grey Street	Deakin	Saturday 18 November	11.30am	On Site	4	3	2
29 Baracchi Crescent	Giralang	Saturday 18 November	12.30pm	On Site	3	1	-
53 Cunningham Street	Kingston	Saturday 18 November	1.30pm	On Site	4	2	2
21 Scarborough Street	Red Hill	Saturday 18 November	3.30pm	On Site	5	3	3
24 Stockdale Street	Dickson	Sunday 19 November	11.00am	On Site	3	1	-
6 Willow Close	Jerrabomberra	Saturday 25 November	9.30pm	On Site	5	4	3
5/4 Biddell Place	Nicholls	Saturday 25 November	9.30pm	On Site	3	1	1
4 Swagman Street	Lawson	Saturday 25 November	10.30am	On Site	4	3	2
3/49 Dooland Court	Nicholls	Saturday 25 November	11.00am	On Site	3	1	1
32 Bedford Street	Deakin	Saturday 25 November	12.00pm	On Site	4	2	2
44 Roseworthy Crescent	Farrer	Saturday 25 November	12.00pm	On Site	4	1	2
40 Endeavour Street	Red Hill	Saturday 25 November	1.30pm	On Site	5	3	3
37 Carr Crescent	Wanniasa	Saturday 25 November	1.30pm	On Site	4	3	2
99 Bandjalong Crescent	Aranda	Saturday 25 November	2.30pm	On Site	4	2	2
68 Bendigo Street	Fisher	Wednesday 29 November	5.30pm	On Site	4	2	2
3/71 Torrens Street	Braddon	Thursday 30 November	5.30pm	On Site	2	2	2
31 Carruthers Street	Curtin	Thursday 30 November	6.00pm	On Site	3	1	1
4 Downing Place	Cook	Saturday 2 December	9.30pm	On Site	3	2	2
98 Jaeger Circuit	Bruce	Saturday 2 December	10.30am	On Site	4	2	2
33A Golden Grove	Red Hill	Saturday 2 December	10.30am	On Site	4	2	2

*Each property will be open 30 minutes prior to the scheduled auction time. Stay up to date by viewing our open homes online or subscribe to property alerts at belleproperty.com

Belle Property Canberra | 6295 9911

Belle Property Belconnen | 6103 1063

Belle Property Queanbeyan | 6103 0341

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Address	Suburb	Open	Agent	Contact
1408/1 Grazier	Belconnen	9.00am - 9.20am	Will Peterson	0481 571 404
50 Costello Cir	Calwell	9.00am - 9.30am	Dan McAlpine	0401 005 282
13/5 Harry Hopman	Gordon	9.00am - 9.30am	Lauren McDonald	0407 483 859
536/335 Anketell St	Greenway	9.00am - 9.30am	Samantha Linsdell	0402 507 902
318/15 Jardine St	Kingston	9.00am - 9.30am	Sophia Spokes	0452 112 343
209/352 North	Dickson	9.15am - 9.45am	Alexander Smout	0421 148 706
7 Naismith Place	Kambah	9.15am - 9.45am	Andrew White	0406 753 362
104/189 Gorman	Googong	9.30am - 10.00am	Aaron Papahatzis	0419 683 599
6/108 Athlon Dr	Greenway	9.40am - 10.00am	Samantha Linsdell	0402 507 902
13 Tatchell St	Calwell	9.40am - 10.10am	Dan McAlpine	0401 005 282
99 Bandjalong Cres	Aranda	9.45am - 10.15am	Amy Wilson	0405 130 332
133/32 Blackall St	Barton	10.00am - 10.30am	Sophia Spokes	0452 112 343
2 Cabena Court	Belconnen	10.00am - 10.30am	Leanne Palmer	0400 545 343
303/32 Mort St	Braddon	10.00am - 10.30am	Samantha Linsdell	0402 507 902
3/50 Lampard Cir	Bruce	10.00am - 10.30am	Josh Yewdall	0430 213 909
33/2 Newchurch St	Coombs	10.00am - 10.30am	Leanne Palmer	0400 545 343
90 Ridgeway Rd	The Ridgeway	10.00am - 10.45am	Ryan Broadhurst	0417 513 896
11 Wilhelmi Cres	Banks	10.15am - 10.45am	Samantha Linsdell	0402 507 902
76/41 Clare Burton	Franklin	10.15am - 10.45am	Lauren McDonald	0407 483 859
81 Hearn St	Googong	10.15am - 10.45am	Aaron Papahatzis	0419 683 599
71/22 Eyre St	Kingston	10.20am - 10.50am	Alexander Smout	0421 148 706
2 Todd St	O'Connor	10.30am - 11.00am	Andrew White	0406 753 362
2/2 Mews West	City	10.45am - 11.15am	Greg Hedger	0427 214 337
18 Muresk St	Farrer	10.45am - 11.15am	Chris Hetherington	0422 636 353
28 Insley St	Googong	10.45am - 11.15am	Will Peterson	0481 571 404
2 Collings St	Pearce	10.50am - 11.20am	Alexander Anlezark	0403 221 667
7/6 Tauss Pl	Bruce	11.00am - 11.30am	Josh Yewdall	0430 213 909
14/5 Keith Waller	Casey	11.00am - 11.30am	Lauren McDonald	0407 483 859
28 Arthur Cir	Forrest	11.00am - 11.30am	Alexander Smout	0421 148 706
24/115 Canberra	Griffith	11.00am - 11.30am	Sophia Spokes	0452 112 343
14/111 Canberra	Griffith	11.00am - 11.30am	Bree Currall	0410 633 247
5/34 Leahy Close	Narrabundah	11.00am - 11.30am	Bree Currall	0410 633 247
6/2 McIntosh St	Queanbeyan	11.15am - 11.45am	Aaron Papahatzis	0419 683 599
37 Carr Cres	Wanniassa	11.15am - 11.45am	Samantha Linsdell	0402 507 902
327 Widgiewa Rd	Carwoola	11.15am - 12.00pm	Ryan Broadhurst	0417 513 896

Address	Suburb	Open	Agent	Contact
40 Euree St	Reid	11.20am - 11.50am	Andrew White	0406 753 362
13/14 Chauvel St	Campbell	11.30am - 12.00pm	Samantha Linsdell	0402 507 902
26 Aprasia Ave	Googong	11.30am - 12.00pm	Andrew White	0406 753 362
41 Lindbeck Corner	Googong	11.30am - 12.00pm	Aaron Papahatzis	0419 683 599
8/6 Cunningham St	Griffith	11.45am - 12.15pm	Bree Currall	0410 633 247
30 Stuart St	Griffith	11.45am - 12.15pm	Alexander Smout	0421 148 706
8/26 Macquarie St	Barton	12.00pm - 12.30pm	Steph Hoss	0401 857 662
31 Carruthers St	Curtin	12.00pm - 12.30pm	Michael Pead	0431 937 684
423/34 Eyre St	Kingston	12.00pm - 12.30pm	Alexander Anlezark	0403 221 667
4 Swagman St	Lawson	12.00pm - 12.30pm	Josh Yewdall	0430 213 909
10/3 Broughton Pl	Queanbeyan	12.00pm - 12.30pm	Aaron Papahatzis	0419 683 599
4A Harold White	Coombs	12.15pm - 12.45pm	Amr Bakry	0400 284 930
68 Bendigo St	Fisher	12.15pm - 12.45pm	Amy Wilson	0405 130 332
1 Rockley Parade	Googong	12.15pm - 12.45pm	Aaron Papahatzis	0419 683 599
283 Wanna Wanna	Carwoola	12.15pm - 1.00pm	Ryan Broadhurst	0417 513 896
5 Rusden St	Garran	12.15pm - 1.00pm	Steve Whitelock	0402 082 886
3/71 Torrens St	Braddon	12.30pm - 1.00pm	Samantha Linsdell	0402 507 902
6 Ossa Place	Lyons	12.30pm - 1.00pm	Leanne Palmer	0400 545 343
40 Endeavour St	Red Hill	12.30pm - 1.00pm	Alexander Smout	0421 148 706
9/26 Carrington St	Queanbeyan	12.45pm - 1.15pm	Aaron Papahatzis	0419 683 599
174 Femleigh Dr	Googong	1.00pm - 1.30pm	Steph Hoss	0401 857 662
41 Bluestone Gd	Jerrabomberra	1.00pm - 1.30pm	Alexander Anlezark	0403 221 667
32 Bedford St	Deakin	1.15pm - 1.45pm	Alexander Smout	0421 148 706
15/18 Captain Cook	Griffith	1.15pm - 1.45pm	Sophia Spokes	0452 112 343
18 Allambee St	Jerrabomberra	1.15pm - 1.45pm	Aaron Papahatzis	0419 683 599
22/3 Allambee St	Reid	1.30pm - 2.00pm	Andrew White	0406 753 362
108 Settlers Rd	Royalla	1.30pm - 2.00pm	Greg Hedger	0427 214 337
5/28 Black St	Yarralumla	1.30pm - 2.00pm	Dan McAlpine	0401 005 282
587 Royalla Dr	Royalla	1.30pm - 2.15pm	Ryan Broadhurst	0417 513 896
33A Golden Gr	Red Hill	2.00pm - 2.30pm	Alexander Smout	0421 148 706
70 Crisp Cir	Bruce	2.00pm - 2.40pm	Josh Yewdall	0430 213 909
8/46 Dooring St	Dickson	2.30pm - 3.00pm	Dan McAlpine	0401 005 282
98 Jaeger Cir	Bruce	3.10pm - 3.50pm	Josh Yewdall	0430 213 909
2/11 Kerridge St	Kingston	3.15pm - 3.45pm	Josh Yewdall	0430 213 909
23 Boronia Cres	Karabar	4.30pm - 5.00pm	Josh Yewdall	0430 213 909

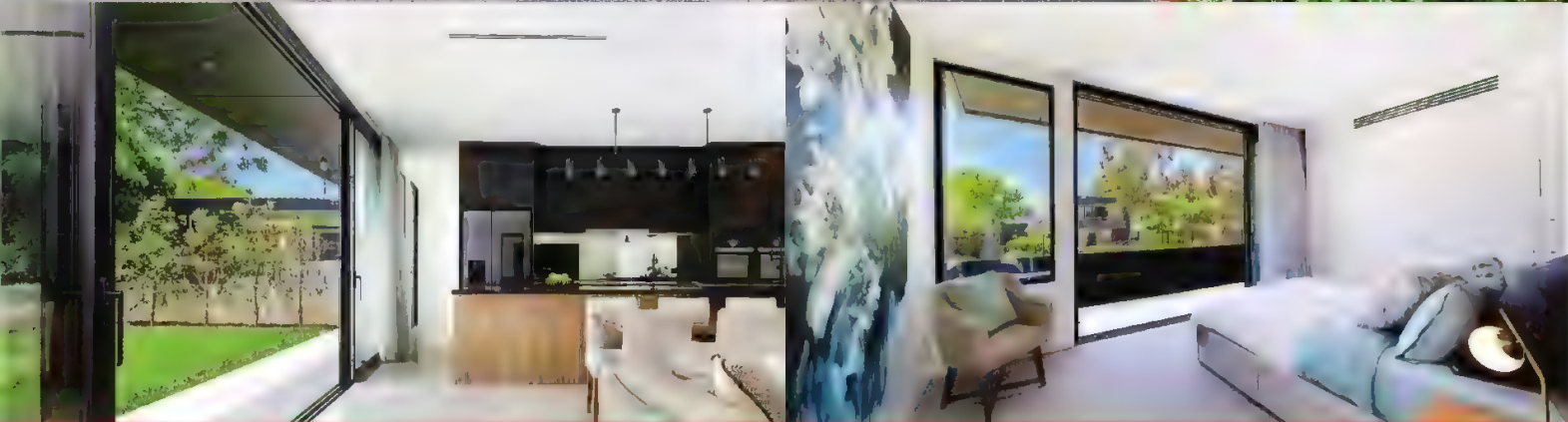
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belle
PROPERTY



22 GODFREY STREET CAMPBELL
3 BED | 3.5 BATH | 2 CAR

Situated on a beautiful tree-lined street, the clean lines, striking facade, designer inclusions and generous spaces define this exceptional as new inner-city family home. Architecturally designed by Tynan Freeman, this bold property caters to all types of buyers requirements, providing multiple living zones, and exceptional indoor/outdoor flow, all sited on a low-maintenance landscaped block.
 EER 4.5

INSPECT

Saturday 18th November 12.00-12.30pm
 Tuesday 21st November 5.45-6.15pm

AUCTION ON SITE

Sunday 3rd December 2023 @ 12noon

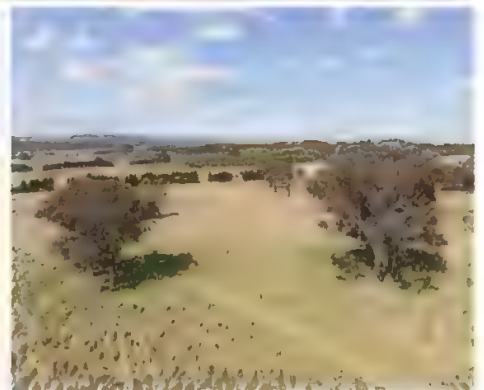
THEO KOUTSIKAMANTIS 0431 543 649
 THEO@BASTIONPG.COM.AU

LUCA MORELLA 0455 888 098
 LUCA@BASTIONPG.COM.AU



BASTION
 PROPERTY GROUP

allhomes



Woodland Park

854 Hoskinstown Road, Bungendore

Woodland Park offers a unique opportunity to realise an ideal rural lifestyle. Large holdings so close to Bungendore and Queanbeyan within commuting distance to Canberra rarely come onto the market. All with ample building envelopes ensuring room for dream homes and all associated infrastructure. Featuring a harmonious mix of arable cleared

country, wooded areas and plantations on some lots. Perfect for various lifestyles and interests, large acreages that lend themselves to rural pursuits such as grazing, vineyard's, equine pursuits or simply getting away from it all. Providing residents with easy access to essential amenities and urban conveniences.

 116-376 acres

For Sale
\$850,000 - \$1,500,000

Agent
Peter Stumbles 0418 630 002
Jon Stumbles 0418 182 701

(02) 6297 3333
Queanbeyan | Jerrabomberra | Googong



59 Investigator Street Red Hill

Character Home With Potential To Renovate

Perfectly positioned on an elevated, north facing, 754sqm block on one of Red Hill's most desirable streets, this stunning property offers a perfect blend of comfort and convenience. Step inside this home and be greeted by living areas with large north facing windows, allowing plenty of natural light to flood in.

Features:

- Bright and sunny living areas with direct access to balcony
- Elevated 754sqm block
- Ideal north aspect
- Established private gardens
- Immense potential to further improve

EER 

 754sqm

Auction

Saturday 2nd December,
On site at 10:00AM

View

Saturday 18th November
10:00am - 10:30am

Agent

Stephen Thompson 0418 626 254

LJ Hooker Manuka 6239 5551



10 Norfolk Street Red Hill

A Feel Good Family Home

Discover this stunning property, offering the ultimate blend of luxury, convenience, and comfort. With multiple living areas, including a spacious lounge and a separate family room, there is plenty of room for everyone to relax and unwind. The single-level layout of this home makes it accessible and convenient.

Features:

- Sunny, north facing living areas
- 933sqm corner block
- Additional basement storage
- Sparkling in ground pool
- 300m to Red Hill Shops, 500m to St Bede's Primary and 600m to Red Hill Primary

EER 

 933sqm

Auction

Saturday 2nd December,
On site at 12:00PM

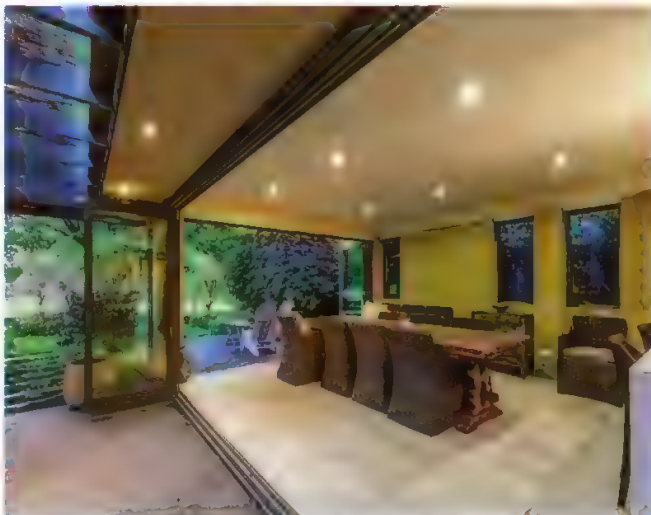
View

Saturday 18th November
1:00pm - 1:30pm

Agent

Stephen Thompson 0418 626 254

LJ Hooker Manuka 6239 5551



KAMBAH • 123 Mt Vernon Drive

AUCTION

4 2 3 6

Nestled in one of the most sought-after locations, this single-level tranquil residence offers a truly exceptional living experience. Backing onto the golf course, it provides a perfect oasis for those seeking a peaceful retreat. As you step into the home, you'll immediately notice the inviting and spacious layout. The interior features a seamless flow from room to room, creating an open and airy ambiance throughout. Large windows allow abundant natural light to fill the living spaces, enhancing the feeling of tranquility and providing a breathtaking outlook. An outdoor kitchen with built-in BBQ and Range hood features within the fully covered alfresco that has bi-fold doors that allows the room to open completely. Step outside to your private backyard oasis, where you can relax and unwind while overlooking the lush fairways of the golf course. Embrace a lifestyle of serenity and sophistication in this exceptional property. EER 2.5.

OPEN: Saturday 3-3.30pm, Monday 5-5.30pm
AUCTION: On site 3pm, Saturday 25 November

CONTACT:
 Sophie Luton 0410 750 413
 Richard Luton 0418 697 844



Large executive residence with magnificent views

In a supremely commanding position high on the Chapman ridge and with magnificent views across south Canberra, a sophisticated and elegant residence of grand proportions. Grand entry hall with formal lounge and dining rooms with lovely aspect over gardens, large kitchen with family room and access to the outdoor entertaining areas with north facing views. This exquisite four bedroom ensuite residence offers exceptional accommodation. The property will impress with its functional, practical and spacious floor plan.

EER 1.0

51 Monkman Street

Inspect: Saturday 2.30pm-3.15pm or By Appointment

Auction: On site 11.00am Saturday 9th November 2023

Details: Simon Richards 0424688553 or Bill Lynstakis 0418626593



Provincial charm in Red Hill, large 1462m2 block and pool

In a highly convenient leafy location, a sensational character residence of extraordinary beauty & attention to detail, positioned on a 1462m2 north facing land holding set amongst lush gardens & hedging. A large family home (338m2), offering entry hall, gorgeous formal rooms with fireplace & sash windows offering expansive garden outlook. A north facing conservatory with fireplace & in slab heating, highest quality kitchen by Heiniger Joinery with WIP, rumpus room off the kitchen & formal dining room. Master bedroom with WIR & ensuite, 2 further bedrooms with main bath, study, gym & a guest retreat with living area, bedroom & ensuite bathroom. Heated swimming pool with pool house/entertaining area, side access gates extensive garaging & storage complete the house. Designed & constructed to the most exacting standards, 1 Reliance Street represents an incredibly rare opportunity. EER 1.5

1 Reliance Street

Inspect: Saturday 12.00-12.30pm or By Appointment

Price: \$4,000,000 +

Details: Simon Richards 0424688553 or Bill Lynstakis 0418626593



Stunning 442m2 designer residence with pool opposite parkland

A sensational designer residence of outstanding proportions (442m2) in an elevated position opposite parkland. Offering spacious segregated living/dining areas, wonderfully large sunny chefs kitchen with Miele appliances & large pantry, large master suite with views plus 4 large bedrooms/study with 3 ens and master bath. Superb outdoor entertaining areas with heated pool + auto cover & Cabana. Thermally broken double glazed windows, hydronic heat, Reverse Cycle Heating & Cooling, Tesla 2 battery, 20kw solar panels, CCTV cameras and auto gates. 3 cars. Rare Offering. EER 6.2

37 Sprent Street

Inspect: Saturday 12.00-12.30pm or By Appointment

Price: By Negotiation

Details: Bill Lynstakis 0418626593 or Michael Lynstakis 0422633490

Greg Ward 0413 503 312

Jen Ward 0412 563 967

WARD
ESTATE AGENTS



6 Granville Close, Greenleigh

4 2 4

Fabulous Family Retreat In a Quiet Cul-de-Sac Location

Tucked away in a sheltered bush location, it's time to reward yourself with this delightful family sanctuary, where the promises of easy and comfortable living and entertaining will be yours to enjoy. Well-presented and offering exceptionally spacious and light-filled accommodation, the home's interiors provide an appealing and practical layout, perfect for the carefree indoor/outdoor lifestyle you're seeking.

A fantastic rumpus room will be heaven for kids (and parents), not to mention the full-sized tennis court that's also one of fun. And best of all, you'll be close to the centre of Queanbeyan, Queanbeyan Golf Club, schools and local amenities.

Open For Inspection

Saturday 18 November 10.45am - 11.15am

Wednesday 22 November 5.00pm - 5.30pm

Auction

Sunday 3 December 10.00am

wardestateagents.com.au



A photograph of a modern, single-story house with white walls and large black-framed windows. A prominent pink heart graphic is superimposed over the image, with its top point reaching towards the headline. The house has a flat roof and a small front garden with green grass and two small trees. The house number '5' is visible on the front wall.

VISIT THE START OF SOMETHING BIG.

First seven houses now open in our brand-new Googong Display Village.

The first seven homes in our brand-new display village have opened early, so pop in to Googong and take a sneak peek at what's on offer. These inviting homes have great design ideas to suit a modern lifestyle. With more homes opening soon, our display village has plenty more in store to inspire you. The Display Village is open 11am–4pm weekends. Visit Edward Drive, Googong NSW. For more information visit googong.net/display-village.

A JOINT VENTURE BETWEEN PEET AND MIRVAC

 **GOOGONG** belong

The Fields



**CHOOSE THE BLOCK.
CHOOSE THE LIFE.**

Final blocks now selling.

Your opportunity to join
an exclusive sanctuary
at The Fields, is here.

Just imagine the freedom.

With exceptional blocks ranging in size
from 6,500m² to 27,231m²*, your soul can
find the freedom it's been yearning for.

Less than 40 minutes to central Canberra.
The Fields at Murrumbateman is perfectly
placed to provide the lifestyle you've
always dreamed of.

Blocks starting from \$669,900

*Approx block sizes. Subject to Yass Valley DA Approval

For more information contact:
Josh Reid - 0432 423 699



Find out more
thefieldsmurrumbateman.com.au

Colliers

LAKESIDE / BELCONNEN

Construction Commenced
Completion anticipated mid 2025

ETHOS

Our single minded ETHOS is to design and construct the *most beautiful* and ultimately, *most liveable* apartments in Canberra.

A PER SE PROJECT

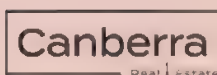
From the team behind the highly
coveted Cirrus Belconnen.

2, 3 & 4 bedroom north facing residences
overlooking Lake Ginninderra.

Fully furnished display apartment
Open for viewing | Wed - Sun 11am - 2pm



PER SE



0413 168 733

ethosbelconnen.com.au

1300 120 454



HOME DISCOVERY DAYS

Uncover home building
inspiration, guidance,
and prime land opportunities.

18–19 NOVEMBER
10AM–4PM



Join us for a weekend of home building inspiration, a chance to discover prime building opportunities in Whitlam and Jacka, and family-friendly free activities.

On Saturday, 18 November, explore our display homes showcasing innovative home and garden designs, join our sales information sessions and meet with our sustainable home experts and partner builders. There'll be fun kids activities, live music, food and even free ice cream!

The experience continues on Sunday, November 19 with more opportunities to explore our display village and meet with our sales team. Information sessions and kids entertainment will continue throughout the day. Don't miss the opportunity to enquire about blocks now selling in Whitlam and Jacka.

When: Saturday, 18 November 10am – 4pm
Sunday, 19 November 10am – 4pm

Where: Corner of Sculthorpe Avenue
and Klaus Moje Street, Whitlam ACT 2611



**Secure your spot
by registering now!**



ACT
Government

**Suburban Land
Agency**

DISPLAY VILLAGE SHOWCASE

suburbanland.act.gov.au

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Ridgeway

MOLLYMOOK



LAND LOTS FROM 500-1000 SQM NOW SELLING

Discover the perfect piece of land in Mollymook and make your coastal dreams come true. Whether you're looking for a serene escape or an excellent investment opportunity. With its ideal location just moments from the beach and surrounded by breathtaking natural beauty, this is your chance to be part of this incredible rare opportunity.

- Generous land size
- Unspoiled natural surroundings
- Proximity to pristine beaches
- Endless possibilities for design
- A peaceful coastal lifestyle



Don't miss out on this unique opportunity
ridgewaymollymook.com.au

LEDA Living

LAND FOR SALE
LIMITED RELEASE
Spectacular blocks available
from 5,000sqm to 40HA

TAKE A TOUR



WOODBURY RIDGE

SUTTON NSW

LIMITED RELEASE
OF SPECTACULAR LOTS!

Nestled in serenity

Woodbury Ridge is an exemplary, ecologically sensitive development, nestled in a tranquil rural setting on Canberra's doorstep. Construction is nearing completion and settlements are expected from February 2024.

Our Spring Release has blocks ranging from 5,000sqm to 40HA, giving you the space you desire without sacrificing convenience. All the vibrant Sutton village amenities are within walking distance, including the amazing bakery, art gallery, pharmacy and school.

Sutton is by far the best-connected NSW postcode in the region, with the City, Gungahlin and Dickson all within 20 minutes.

Come and inspect the new benchmark in rural residential living in the region and check out the peaceful, convenient lifestyle on offer at Woodbury Ridge.



Find out more by visiting our website
or attending an inspection on
Saturday from 2:00pm - 4:00pm

woodburyridgesutton.com.au

Capital+1
Real Estate

belle
PROPERTY

Andrew Cook
0431 891 519

Kerri Gisik
0409 607 474

Ryan Broadhurst
0417 513 896

Dominic Johns
0481 211 767



ESCAPE
Words by Jil Hogan

Scan any address with the
Allhomes app to view listing



Dolphin Point

11 Galiga Crescent
\$1.75 million-\$1.82 million

4 2 2

Private sale

Agent: Raine & Horne Mollymook
& Milton, Ben Pryde 0410 324 209

From its pitched ceilings, highlight windows and locally crafted timber finishes to its sparkling pool, outdoor shower, covered al fresco area, and internal courtyard, this architect-designed home is the epitome of sophisticated coastal living. It boasts a solar power system and water tank, and is just a 500-metre walk from the ocean.



Tathra

15 Ocean View Terrace
\$2.25 million

3 2 1

Private sale

Agent: Tathra Beach Real Estate,
Natalie Scott 0419 417 807

Set over three levels, this unique home is crafted with sustainability in mind. It has recycled timbers, picture windows and slow-combustion heating, all wrapped in stunning views – the ocean one way and a reserve the other. The main bedroom is on the mezzanine-style top level, with a study and Japanese-inspired en suite, including a bath with leafy views.

Butt real network **"SILVERDALE" YASS NSW** 231HA - 570AC

LOCATION INVESTMENT - MIXED GRAZING - WATER - LIFESTYLE WITH SCALE

Silverdale presents a terrific opportunity for purchasers to acquire an established 231ha (570ac) suitable to operate a mixed grazing enterprise 9kms from Yass and an easy 60 min drive to Canberra's CBD.

Silverdale's location provides direct access to the Hume and Barton Highways allowing professionals looking for a lifestyle opportunity from city centres Canberra, Sydney and the Highlands a short distance to their very own rural property with large established C1850's homestead.

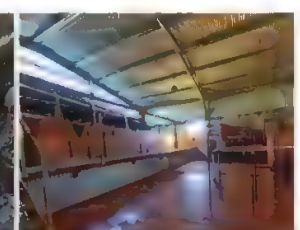
The C1850s pise homestead and weatherboard addition sits amongst well established gardens with picturesque rural views providing enough accommodation for the biggest of families and lots of guests with its 7 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms.

Water security is provided by frontage to 3 creeks, surface dams, a registered bore and the availability of town water.

Working improvements inc; Well-equipped 4 stand wool shed and yards, workshop, hay shed and 2 silos.

Silverdale's improved native pastures and passive grazing operation has historically carried 3.5 DSE p/acre. There is significant opportunity to increase this figure with a more intensive management program.

Expressions of Interest Closing Monday 4th December 2023



WITH LIVESTOCK & PROPERTY
office@butt.jp.com.au
Sally Butt: 0400 817 794
Phil Butt: 0417 411 105



Rare Opportunity — Deceased Estate

'Summer Hill', Good Hope via Yass, NSW

- 48ha* (119ac*) reliable native grazing country located 10mins* Yass, 50mins* Canberra, 7mins* Murrumbidgee River / Burrinjuck Dam, 1hr* Canberra International Airport, 15mins* Yass Rail Station, 2hr 50mins* Sydney via Hume Freeway
 - Direct access via sealed Good Hope Road
 - Stunning views across property to the north & east
 - 95%* arable, gently undulating Yass Valley grazing country
 - Building envelope 4,000m²*, 2 large clean dams & bore, cattle yards, internal fencing
- Long-standing local farming family selling 'Summer Hill' to finalise estate.

raywhiteruralyasscanberra.com.au

Auction

Saturday 25 November 1pm

On-site

George Southwell

0429 838 345

Ray White Rural Canberra | Yass

*approx



Town Water Farm

'Anmore', Harden Township, Hilltops Region, NSW

- Sprawling 23.21ha* (57.35ac*) rural haven only 5min* Harden Township with urban amenity such as town water. 25min* Young, 50min* Yass, 3hrs 40min* Sydney
 - Modern 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom 2016 built family home with abundant natural light & pergola perfect for entertaining + garage, chook house & 12mx8mx4m shed
 - Fenced into 7 paddocks, 7 water troughs, steel yards, adjustable loading ramp
 - Only 5min* drive from the main Melbourne to Sydney train line
 - Ideal for a rural retreat, family living, or livestock enthusiast
- Health related retirement means sale required this time around.

raywhiterural.yasscanberra.com.au

Auction

Saturday 2 December 11:30am
On-site

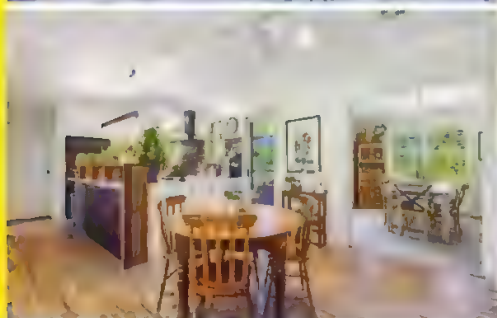
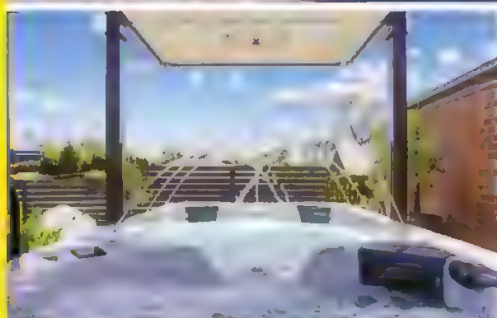
George Southwell 0429 838 345

Ray White Rural Canberra | Yass

James Brown 0407 491 898

Ray White Rural Harden

*approx



5mins* Walk to Village Centre — Miles Away From Stress + Passive Income

32 South Street, Murrumbateman, NSW

- Private & ideal 7,870m²* family property with passive income of \$26,000* per annum
 - Additional 1 bedroom + study cottage with secure yard & separate driveway
 - Spacious main house boasts 4 bedrooms + a separate study with plenty of room for relaxation & entertainment, 2 car garage & plenty of outdoor parking
 - A true lifestyle property — swim spa, sauna, established orchard, veggie garden, greenhouse, chicken coop & well-fenced, secure paddocks, secure water & shed
 - 3mins* to Murrumbateman Village, 35mins* to Canberra CBD, 18mins* to Yass
- The owners are committed to move due to family health issues.

Auction

Wednesday 6 December 6pm

On-site

View

Saturday 18 November 12-12:45pm
& Thursday 21 November 5:30-6:15pm

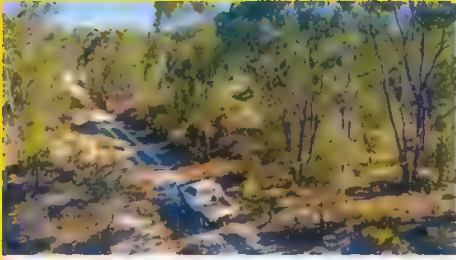
David Alexander 0455 777 644

George Southwell 0429 838 345

raywhiterural.yasscanberra.com.au

*approx

Rural



Nature Enthusiast's Paradise in Oallen!

123 Oallen Road, Oallen, NSW

- 6.65ha* (16.40ac*) with a unique blend of sustainable living & outdoor venture possibilities
- A tranquil piece of native bushland escaping the city hustle & bustle, just 1hr 30* minutes to Canberra
- Cozy weekender home with modern comforts + separate shed for storage, workshop or a second cozy retreat
- Bushland ideal for horse riding, bird watching or exploration on your own terms
- Abundant water with 2x 22,500L rainwater tanks + 6.6kW solar system, 9.96kW battery storage

raywhiteruralyasscanberra.com.au

Auction

Sunday 26 November 1pm

On-site

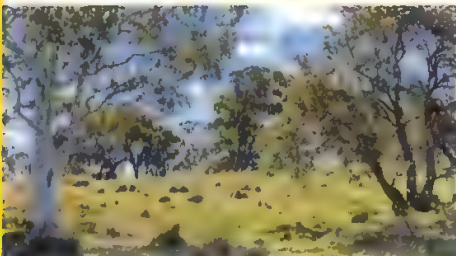
Bill Robertson-West

0475 000 023

Ray White Rural Canberra | Yass

*approx.

Rural



Expand Your Rural Horizons with Endless Options

'Treorchy' & 'Lochinvar', Dalton via Gunning, NSW

- 225ha* (555* acres) of prime rural land comprising 'Treorchy' 131ha* and 'Lochinvar' 94ha*
- Excellent undulating grazing country to run the livestock of your choice + home to abundant wildlife
- Secure fencing, dams, creek and numerous building sites enjoying 360 degree views + power running through
- Private yet accessible — 16km* Hume Freeway, 27min* Yass, 50min* ACT and 45min* Goulburn
- A blank canvas ready to realise your rural ambitions or expand existing operations

raywhiteruralyasscanberra.com.au

Auction

Saturday 2 December 9am

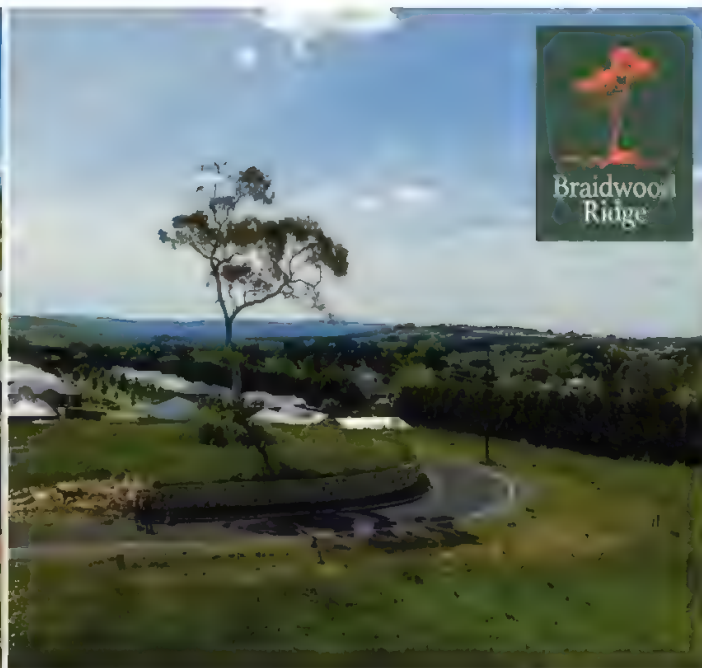
151 Comur St, Yass

George Southwell

0429 838 345

Ray White Rural Canberra | Yass

*approx.



Braidwood Ridge Stage 4, 1-26 Coffey St, Braidwood

This is a rare opportunity for a rural life with breathtaking view and a timeless country lifestyle. Braidwood Ridge is located in the heart of the historic Braidwood township.

Braidwood Ridge offers a unique and limited opportunity to build the home of your dreams on your own picture-perfect estate. Featuring just 13 blocks in stage 4 averaging 1.732m², Braidwood Ridge is Braidwood's premier new address that will enhance every day of your life. At your doorstep are rugged mountain ranges, wild rivers, caves, beautiful forests and unlimited "off the beaten track" territory to explore. At your convenience are all the amenities of a popular thriving country town located less than an hour's drive to Canberra and the beaches of the south coast. The snowfields are approximately 2 hours away.

Stage 4 completed with blocks ready to build on now. No time limits. All underground town services including NBN.

Price from \$385,000 to \$425,000. Average price \$399,286.

Reg O'Connell 0402 833 344
braidwoodproperty.com.au

Trudi Kirk 0433 520 526
braidwoodridge.com.au

Developer: D. P. Kirk Holdings P/L

**Nutrien
Harcourts**

Nutrien Harcourts Braidwood, 116 Wallace St, Braidwood NSW 2622

PRD. REAL ESTATE

AUCTION



1/1086903 WAGGA ROAD, TUMBARUMBA, NSW

A stunning grazing property nestled in the picturesque countryside of Tumbarumba. Serene beauty of the surrounding mountains - snowcapped in the winter, lushly green, dotted with grazing livestock, create a peaceful and idyllic setting.

- 113.5 hectares/280 acres*
- Blank canvas of open grazing with potential for further development and infrastructure
- Surface water is plentiful with 3-4 dams, annual rainfall of 920mm and fertile soils
- Build (with approval) (Minimum lot size of 40HA)
- Conveniently located just a short 10 minute drive to Tumbarumba (population 1862*), home to a bustling tourism town with rail trails, mountain bike tracks, snow fields, wineries and distilleries.

INSPECTION BY APPOINTMENT

Prudential **PRD.** **REAL ESTATE**
1086903 WAGGA ROAD, TUMBARUMBA, NSW
1086903 WAGGA ROAD, TUMBARUMBA, NSW



**Find your space
allhomes**

This information has been carefully compiled and is not intended to be treated as a warranty or promise as to the correctness of the information. Interested parties should undertake independent enquiries and investigations to satisfy themselves that any details herein are true and correct. Figures and information may be subject to change without notice.



COMMERCIAL

Words by Ray Sparvell

Proven performer in a winning precinct

Braddon's reputation as the territory's key entertainment and hospitality precinct has few challengers.

Its cafe strip has got that winning vibe, and that's what draws further players keen to join the strong line-up of options.

There's now an opportunity for a new contender to slide straight into a restaurant business that's already been proven to have a successful formula along with a strong point of differentiation.

TC Restaurant and Bar offers a unique combination of modern Asian cuisine and fine tea. It's believed to offer the only yum cha in the inner city and is the only fine tea establishment in Canberra.

Aside from outstanding food – and there are plenty of online reviews to substantiate that – the business also delivers a modern, high-quality and



award-winning fitout and a top brand-focused commercial kitchen.

The restaurant seats 40 inside and 12 outside. It is open Thursday to Monday, offering substantial scope for a new owner to increase the business hours.

Michael Newham of The Finn Group says the restaurant represents a rare opportunity.

"The business has proved itself and everything is in place for a new owner to take over and hit the ground

Braddon

G07/2 Batman Street

\$295,000 + SAV (negotiable)

Agent: The Finn Group,

Michael Newham 0419 263 014



Scan the code with
the Allhomes app
to view listing

running," he says. "By the same token, the style of the existing fitout would enable a translation into any other kind of dining."

There's a lease until April 2026, along with a five-year option. **h**



FOR SALE

ARCHER



DA Approved Site for 32 Residential Units - Commence building in 2024!

1/90 Corkery Crescent, Taylor ACT 2913

Archer Canberra and K Property proudly present an exceptional opportunity for investors, builders and developers seeking a remarkable boutique development site in one of the best locations in Taylor, Canberra.

This is a rare chance to acquire a Development Application (DA) approved site designed for 32 residential units. With limited new properties being offered for sale in 2024 + 2025, these 32 residential units will be a popular purchase.

Strategically located opposite a significant 70,000+sqm* future group centre development precinct, ensuring the area's ongoing growth and development.

Expression of Interest will close Monday, 27th November at 5 PM

With Canberra's population projected to surge by almost 10,000 people in the upcoming financial year, the ACT is on course to be the fastest-growing state or territory by 2026/27, highlighting the immense potential for growth and demand in the region.

For further information, please contact the appointed agents:

Amin Kashan

0423 319 397

amin@kproperty.au

Sasha Trpkovski

0499 499 290

sasha.trpkovski@archercbr.com.au



ACT
Government

Suburban Land
Agency

Great places, where communities thrive

Multi-unit and Community Facility development opportunities in Lawson



We invite you to build on this neighbourhood's distinct sense of place and community through the release of some of the last sites in Lawson Stage 2.

A strong performing suburb in an ideal location, Lawson is a popular home for families, academics and those wishing to live close to a variety of employment options.

On offer are three multi-unit blocks zoned RZ4 and RZ5, along with one Community Facility zoned block. For further information on the blocks available, please visit suburbanland.act.gov.au/lawson.

Auction Details

WHERE

QT Canberra
1 London Cct, Canberra ACT 2601

WHEN

11am, Tuesday,
5 December 2023

For enquiries about this opportunity, please contact the Suburban Land Agency's appointed selling agent, Knight Frank.



Nathan Dunn

nathan.dunn@au.knightfrank.com
0488 216 406

Kellie O'Connor

kellie.oconnor@au.knightfrank.com
0499 350 757



suburbanland.act.gov.au



make to the life of this city and this region



For Sale

ACT, Canberra City: 5 & 12/30 Garema Place

Prime CBD Retail Investment

- Blue chip retail position within the heart of the Canberra CBD
- Premium ground floor frontage to Canberra's premier pedestrian thoroughfare
- Leased to Landspeed Records who are Canberra's best independent record store trading since 1997
- Combined Unit Area of approximately 259sqm*
- Passing Net Income of \$54,373 per annum plus GST
- Weighted Average Lease Expiry of 2.87 years (as at 1 December 2023)
- Historically low vacancy

**For Sale via Expressions of Interest closing
Tuesday 12th December 2023 at 4PM (AEDT)**

Joseph Rennie
0431 040 132

Tristan Cotchett
0432 642 315



For Sale

ACT, Canberra: 7 & 13-18/108 Bunda Street

Vacant CBD Retail Canvass

- Premier Canberra CBD retail position adjacent to the Canberra Centre
- Premium ground floor frontage to Bunda Street
- Offered for sale subject to vacant possession
- Long-term restaurant trading history with existing fitout in place
- Seven (7) separate titles creating flexibility in ownership and occupancy
- Combined Unit Area of approximately 479sqm*
- Historically low vacancy

**For Sale via Expressions of Interest closing
Tuesday 12th December 2023 at 4PM (AEDT)**

Joseph Rennie
0431 040 132

Tristan Cotchett
0432 642 315



Burgess Rawson

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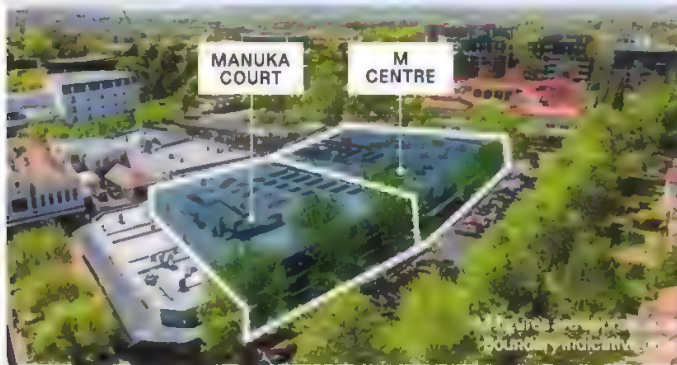
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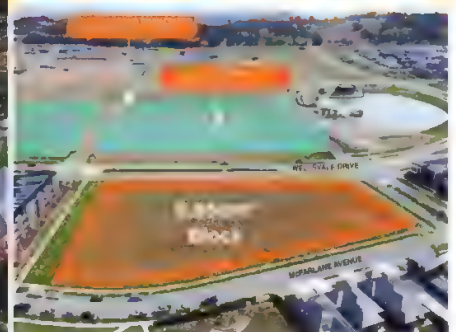
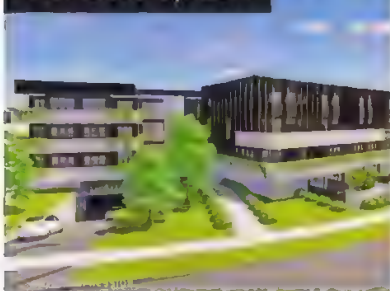


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NOVEMBER 18, 2023

PANORAMA

CAT PERSON

A viral short story
goes to the big screen



STEVE EVANS Antidote to despair YOWIE MAN Hunting for scorpions that glow EXPLORE Road trips and treks

A delicious antidote to madness

Steve Evans

I'M in despair. I was asked to write a whimsical column but, I'm afraid, I just don't feel very whimsical. COVID doesn't help but the state of the world helps even less.

There are a few good reasons for bleakness.

My Jewish friends feel beleaguered. For the first time in their lives, they see anti-Semitism - Jew-hate - rising around them. And an intelligent non-Jewish friend said that Jews were not discriminated against. I mentioned the Holocaust but it made no difference.

My partner's Japanese pilates teacher wondered if the Israeli government had massacred its own citizens to gain sympathy - she'd read it somewhere on Telegram! She, by the way, had refused to get vaccinated against COVID, though she said she would have done so if there had been a Japanese vaccine.

There is a madness afoot.

And yet, I fear we ain't seen nothing yet.

The polling from America indicates that Donald Trump may well be selected as the Republican candidate in next year's presidential election, and that he might well win.

A man who lies as easily as he breathes (maybe more easily), who is either delusional or, more likely, dishonest about his defeat at the last election, may return to the ultimate power on this earth.

His election would presage the end of democracy in America. Have no illusions. It's as big as that.



Comfort food won't cure all the world's problems ... but it helps. Picture Shutterstock

COVID AND MALDOD

Of course, one of the reasons I may be feeling so bleak is that I have COVID, and what I need is maldod.

There are a few Welsh words which do not have an English equivalent and maldod is one of the best.

It is that smothering we need when we are ill. Pampering comes closest to it but doesn't quite get there. We are pampered, I imagine, if we spend the day having our toenails painted at a spa, with a servant filling and refilling our glass with sparkling wine. The plate of chocolate at our elbow is constantly refilled. That's pampering - but it's not maldod.

Maldod is when your partner brings hot buttered toast and two runnyish boiled eggs to your bed when you are ill. It is being wrapped up warm near a stove when you have the flu - or COVID.

Or given a "cwttch".

Again, there is no exact translation. A cwttch is a kind of hug, but the kind of hug you give a baby or a child - one which protects and encircles with love.

That's what I need.

I may have caught COVID on the packed flight back from Britain a week ago, though it was already out and about again in Australia, so who knows?

Adrian Esterman of the University of

Maldod is that smothering we need when we are ill.

South Australia told me there are two reasons for the unwelcome return: "(1) waning immunity due to people not keeping up to date with their vaccinations. For example, only 23 per cent of Australians aged 65 and over have had an updated vaccination in the last six months. (2) Some new highly transmissible variants taking over in Australia."

There was another virus on the flight. The couple next to me from outer Melbourne opined, unbidden, that immigration had made London unpleasant. I should say that I find the cosmopolitan nature of London invigorating, and usually choose not to engage with the complainant, as I did this time.

As an antidote to the racism in the seats beside me, the young honeymooning couple of Indian background in the row in front had a good riposte to the white Brit next to them in the window seat who asked them if their marriage was arranged.

"No. We met on Tinder," the woman replied in a thick English accent, shutting him up.

Brits come in all colours. The members of its cabinet may be daft as brushes but they are a multi-ethnic picture of the country.

Thank goodness for that. I feel better already.

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ANU alumnus launches new show



Ron Cerabona

MARIE HAGERTY

An exhibition of new paintings by Marie Hagerty has opened at the Nancy Sever Gallery, City Walk, Canberra. Hagerty, a 1988 graduate of the ANU School of Art, has exhibited throughout Australia and in New York City and has won many art prizes. The exhibition is on until December 17, 2023. See: nancysevergallery.com.au.

GRAINGER GALLERY

Three new exhibitions are now on show. Liz Priestley's *Time & Place* contains romantic renderings of landscapes, imagined or otherwise. Sarah Waghorn's *Take me to a place I cannot go* follows a European odyssey through some well-known locations. And Sian Watson's *Opposing Gaze* is a collection of figurative sculptures that explore the relationship humans have with the natural

landscape. The exhibitions finish on December 3, 2023. For more information, see: graingergallery.com.au.

ANCA GALLERY

The ANCA Artists Group Show brings together works by emerging, mid-career and established artists and makers who have a studio-based

practice at ANCA studios. Artworks on show include sculpture, glasswork, ceramics, painting, photography, object design, video, installation and performance. Participating artists include: Nadège Desgenétez, Hannah Quinliven, Joel Arthur, Emma Beer, Ella Barclay, John Hart, Tom Campbell, Cathy

Zhang, David Greenhalgh, Dan Power, Ian Marr, David Liu, Helen Braund, Evan Humphreys, Katrina Barter and Tilly Davey. It's on until Sunday, November 19, 2023. See: anca.net.au.

ANDREW FORD

In *ABCN: The Music Show* join Andrew Ford OAM for

a deep dive into Australia's radio history and its impact on the music industry, from classical music to pop hits. The free event features: Sia Ahmad, experimental sound artist, producer and engineer; Scott Davie, pianist and performance convenor at the ANU School of Music; and Thorsten Kaeding, curator,

audiophile and host of The Vinyl Lounge. It's on at Arc Cinema, National Film and Sound Archive on Thursday, November 23, 2023 at 6pm. Bookings essential: nfsa.gov.au.

THE YOUNG SOLOISTS

In this concert by young musicians from many nations aged from 13 to 23, the concept is that they perform as soloists with their own orchestra, accompanying each other. The program includes works by Beethoven, Holst, Paganini and Bruch. It's on at Snow Concert Hall, Canberra Grammar School, on Saturday, November 25 at 7pm. See: snowconcerthall.com.

CSO

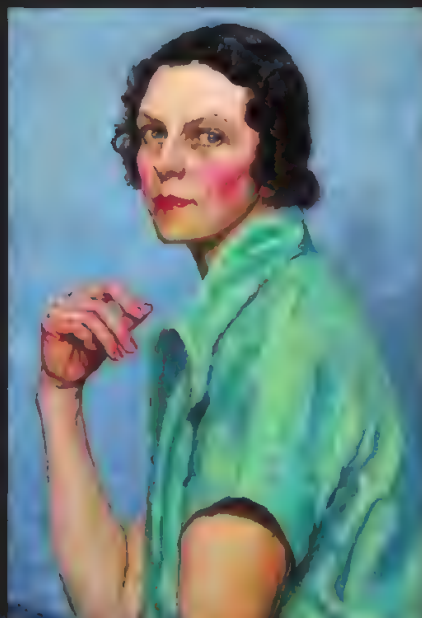
The Canberra Symphony Orchestra's next concert includes Sibelius's *Karelia Suite*, Dvorak's *In Nature's Realm* and a CSO-commissioned premiere, Louisa Trewartha's *...and wood-spirits weave magic secrets...* Llewellyn Hall, November 22 and 23, 2023 at 7.30pm. For more information, see: csso.org.au.

See exhibitions featuring the art of, from left, Sarah Waghorn, Marie Hagerty and John Hart. Pictures supplied



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Tempe Manning Self-portrait 1939 (detail),
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Emilia Jones delivers a strong performance as cinema worker, Margot. Pictures supplied

How viral short story became a movie

Six years ago the short story *Cat Person* broke the internet, leaving vindicated women and angered men in its wake. Now it's about to hit the big screen, writes AMY MARTIN.

Where were you when you first read *Cat Person*?

When the 2017 short story written by Kristen Roupenian was featured in *The New Yorker*, it tripped through the internet, leaving vindicated women and confused, if not angered, men in its wake.

It didn't matter that this was a work of fiction - one that emulated the confessional essays at the time, the first-person pieces usually written by Millennial women, describing bad, and often sexual, experiences. It was an experience that was so common, it quite easily could have been non-fiction.

Cat Person had all of the same markers of those essays, speaking directly to the zeitgeist at the time. There was no denying that it had struck a chord and took on a life of its own. The fact that #MeToo had erupted just months before, in the wake of sexual harassment allegations against producer Harvey Weinstein, certainly had a part to play.

But, on a cultural level, it was the first time women were encouraged to share and at times commodify their bad sexual experiences in a very public way. What *Cat Person* had going for it was that it was generic and all-encompassing enough that it became the everywoman's point of view. Which is what drew such a strong response from male readers.

Now, almost six years to the day, that same story - with a little elaboration and some tweaking - is heading to the big screen, hitting Australian cinemas on November 23. And the conversation is set to heat up again, this time focusing on how much - if anything - has changed in six years.

Director Susanna Fogel remembers exactly when she first came across *Cat Person*.

It was about a week after it had been published and the conversation surrounding the story was already taking over pop culture. Knowing how all-consuming this conversation was, Fogel's first instinct was to avoid it completely - she didn't want to read it because she knew she would have to have an opinion on it.

"But literally everyone was sending it to me," she says.

"So I read it and my first thought was - knowing how provocative it was - why is this story controversial?"

"This is just a specific, perfectly observed, perfectly crafted, intimate exploration of a young woman's sexual encounter with a man and all the feelings that go into that and her own feelings about herself and all of that, but I didn't understand why people were so angry. And when the anger itself became the narrative, that was interesting."

Cat Person tells the story of Margot (played in the film by Emilia Jones), a



Cat Person director Susanna Fogel.

20-year-old college student with a part-time job at a cinema, who goes on an awkward date with an older man, Robert (played by Nicholas Braun), who may or may not have cats, and may or may not be a murderer. That is, throughout the piece, Margot cycles between seeing Robert as this naïf who is overwhelmed by her youth and beauty and also imagining him - quite vividly - as a vicious murderer.

It's this Schrodinger's cat conundrum of

fear that this story plays around with - this idea that the same experiences can happen to two different people at the same time and be perceived very differently. Where one is seeing an exchange in vulnerability that marks the beginnings of a beautiful romance, that possibly will end in marriage, the other is experiencing everything but.

This is set up beautifully in the film by opening with the Margaret Atwood quote, "Men are afraid that women will laugh at them. Women are afraid that men will kill them" - something Fogel says was screenwriter Michelle Ashford's idea.

Dating in general - and in the story - requires you to be vulnerable. If not with your emotions, then with your safety. Going on a date does require you to meet up with a stranger and there is no way to completely trust them. And in the case of heterosexual relationships, it's also a case where the male has more power simply because of his size and strength.

But of course, you can't just hide away from dating experiences either. There will come a time when you go out on a date with someone and a time when you go to bed with someone as well.

For Margot, it just so happened that both of these things were on the same day, which is where a lot of criticism and debate comes from.

How is this woman complaining about having sex with this man, when by all accounts, she never gave him any indication that she didn't want to? How was this man so easily painted as the villain, when all he could hear was her saying "yes"?



The 7000-word story has been fleshed out for the big screen.

Fogel says the film taps into 'dynamics that have existed since the dawn of men and women'.

Emilia Jones and Nicholas Braun as Margot and Robert in *Cat Person*. Pictures supplied

And like all conversations surrounding consent, desire and shared sexual experiences in general, the answer is not that simple. And for that matter, the question doesn't take into consideration all the different shades of grey, to begin with.

"I think the conversation around desire and consent and what women want is so ever-present," Fogel says.

"But it's usually explored in a way that I think is a little bit - well, very - oversimplifying in the sense that the way we talk about what women want, it often just completely overburdens the woman with the responsibility of having to know what she wants, exactly what she wants.

"Some people refer to this as a movie about consent. And it's only a movie about consent, in that she does consent in terms of how we define consent. She says, yes. She says, yes, many, many times in many different ways. But to the careful observer, you see that it's actually a no in the movie - you see her face says she doesn't want to be there.

"But he doesn't know her. He's not looking at her face. In that moment, he doesn't see the context clues. But he hears the word he's supposed to hear and he can't be faulted for that."

And it's an issue that is not just between two people. *Cat Person* - the movie - takes what the short story started and runs with it, showing that these expectations surrounding sexual encounters - the pressure to follow through with something that has already been set in motion - cannot be the result of just one person.

So much of *Cat Person* plays out over text. These two people meet at a cinema, Robert asks for Margot's number and they start to chat for days on end. And so it goes, until both parties start to imagine what the other is like, based on how they interpret what is being written.

No wonder Margot, at the very least, struggles to match up real Robert with text message Robert.

But while a lot of this relationship plays out using technology, there is a common element that has run through dating history, long before the text.

And in the sections where *Cat Person*, the film, fleshes out the original 7000-word story to make a two-hour film, it looks at where some of these expectations come from.

"It does really tap into a primal thing between men and women and that feels timeless," Fogel said.

"Dynamics that have existed since the dawn of men and women.

"For Hope Davis [who plays Kelly, Margot's mum] to be saying ... to the extent that you're told that empowerment means doing whatever you want, and asserting yourself and being their equal, you're going to repel men.

"That's advice that I've been given, that's advice that most women have been given one way or another by male friends, by different generations, by parents - it means you should assume a certain role to get the brass ring."

But what the film captures is more than that.

It's the moments that go beyond the short story's ending. After the moment where Robert lashes out at Margot over a series of messages. After he plunges a metaphorical dagger into whatever relationship they had, in the form of one word sent over text: "Whore".

Of course, giving away the ending of a movie, particularly before it's been released, goes against every spoiler alert rule.

But what Fogel can say is that the big finale was, in part, inspired by the public's reaction to the short story. An attempt at capturing some of that anger sparked by the

I think the conversation around desire and consent and what women want is so ever-present.

Director Susanna Fogel

original iteration of *Cat Person*.

"Reflecting on this movie that I made a couple of years ago, I'm like, yes, it was a meta-commentary on the anger of the story," she says.

"But at the time, we just felt like we'd seen a lot of revenge narratives, we'd seen a lot of movies where it's men being held to accountability by women, women telling their stories, men listening to women's accounts of how toxic they can be as a gender. And I felt like that's a canon of movies that we got right at the height of #MeToo. And those movies are really important, but I think, in the years it took to get this movie made, I think we hit a bit of a plateau in terms of people's appetite for that.

"What's interesting to me was, what's next? What's the next story in that conversation? What do we do now? Yes, she gets a text that is toxic at the end of the story. But the question is, what does that mean?

"What if you see that person in the world? Is a text just a text? Is a text a threat? Is that a real threat? Is it a cowardly response that doesn't correlate to a real-life threat or is it an actual thing that we need to take on board as a serious threat that we need to be fearful of in a time that we're told to be fearful of every man?"

And that's the point. When you receive a message from someone who seemingly hates you so much that they call you a whore, you don't know what comes next. But you do know that whether something follows it or not, it's a moment that will stay with you forever.

And perhaps therein lies the power of *Cat Person*. The reason why so many people still carry this short story with them, returning to regularly reread it.

Because while so many people have had the *Cat Person* experience, no one quite knows what comes next.



Scorpions like this one in the Canberra Nature Park are easy to spot under UV light. Picture by Lauren Ogden

Do scorpions really glow in the dark?

Armed with an ultra-violet torch, I joined a group of nature lovers on an after-dark adventure to hunt for scorpions that I'm told glow in the dark. Here's what happened...

It's a typically balmy November night in Canberra Nature Park. The air is laced with humidity and but for a few birds shifting in their roosts, it's eerily quiet.

One by one we turn off the fire trail and with our torches surveying the way ahead, like a group of wayward fireflies we venture deeper into the bush.

I've joined nature lover Lauren Ogden of Aranda and a couple of her like-minded friends for an after-dark adventure.

Most people bushwalk by day, including Lauren, who regular readers may recall is the Canberran who, obsessed with the ACT's mountain-top trig points, recently clambered to all 104 of them (Canberra's trig hunter a high achiever; July 2, 2021).

But tonight we on a very different mission. We are in search of scorpions.

Yes, those relatively small dark-coloured predatory arachnids that spend most of the day secreted away under rocks only to emerge at night to feed. Little wonder you rarely see them.

Now, you could easily be excused for assuming that trying to find one of these tiny critters in the dark would be a bit like looking for that proverbial needle in a haystack.

But not if you are wielding a black-light torch.

"Scorpions glow a brilliant aqua in the dark under ultraviolet [UV] light," explains Lauren as she starts fossicking in the leaf litter, looking for suitable rocks to peek



**TIM THE
YOWIE MAN**

under.

It was only after seeing a post on Facebook during COVID lockdown that Lauren even realised we had any of the much-maligned creepy crawlies in Canberra.

She was instantly hooked and has since embarked on about 15 field trips in bush close to Canberra's suburbs, even organising a group event for the Canberra Bushwalking Club.

"After seeing some of my photos, now all my friends want to come with me," says Lauren as she dons a pair of heavy-duty gloves, ready to lift a rock or two.

The first few rocks she gently lifts reveal tiny flecks of that fluro aqua she told us to look out for. Could it be our first scorpion?

"Oh, that's just a bit of broken scorpion shell," explains Lauren.

But it's not long before Lauren's enthusiastic rock turning delivers the goods.

"Over here!" she hollers, her UV torch

clearly illuminating a 4cm-long scorpion. You can't miss it!

Over the next hour we find about a dozen more scorpions, about half hidden under rocks, the other half out in the open, forging for their nightly feed. They are everywhere! At least the part of Canberra Nature Park we are in.

Lauren prefers I don't reveal the exact spot. She is worried about the impacts of "creating unwanted footpads" and "disturbing the scorpions' environment" if too many people flock to gawk at them at the same spot.

"I just like to know they are here, and not to annoy them in any way," she says. "It's just good to know what sort of creatures are in your backyard!"

But Lauren needn't be too concerned. According to Benjamin Shoard, an ANU masters student specialising in arachnids, "there are scorpions all over Canberra, and, of course, all wildlife is protected in all the nature reserves".

According to Benjamin, the two most common species in Canberra are black rock scorpions (*Urodacus manicatus*) and marbled scorpions (*Lychas marmoreus*) and they are relatively easy to differentiate. "Apart from their spotted appearance, marbled scorpions have much smaller claws," he explains.

And yes, both species glow. In fact, according to Benjamin, "all known species of scorpion in the world have the ability to glow".

Unlike some living things including types of algae, fish and fungi which "bioluminesce", or create a glow themselves via a chemical reaction (How one man tracked down 'sea sparkles' on the south coast of NSW, June 20, 2018), scorpions "fluoresce"

which means they only produce a blue-green light when exposed to ultraviolet rays.

This glow in scorpions is caused by chemicals in their outer shell absorbing UV light and re-emitting it at a lower wavelength.

So, while we know *how* they fluoresce, *why* they do it is still a mystery.

Some scientists hypothesise the bright hues could be a part of an elaborate mating strategy while others suggest it serves as an ultraviolet sensitivity mechanism allowing the scorpion to avoid damaging light levels.

One thing is certain, the ability of scorpions to fluoresce makes it so much easier for scientists and budding naturalists like Lauren to spot them in the bush.

Benjamin has several tips for any wannabe scorpion searchers.

"UV lights have become more accessible and portable than in the past so just about anyone can go looking for scorpions now," he says. "I've even used one from a COVID test kit in the past."

He also warns against touching them.

"Although Australian scorpion bites aren't fatal to humans, the painful sting can lead to secondary infections."

Oh, and one last word of advice. "Always roll any rocks you move gently back into place, ensuring not to squash the scorpion or any other critters beneath it."

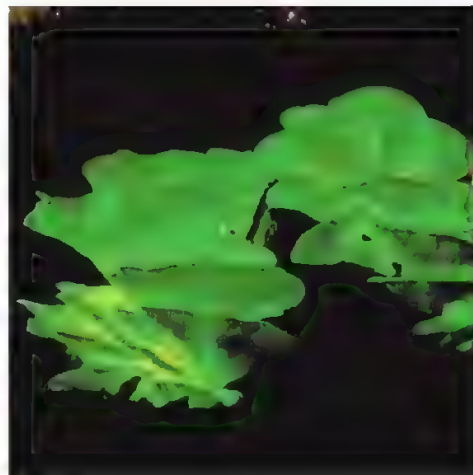
While Benjamin stops short of calling scorpions "cute", he bemoans the way they are often portrayed in popular culture.

"You'll get the odd one that throws out its claws and raises its tail but in the main they are quite beautiful creatures," he asserts.

He certainly won't find any arguments from Lauren, who, before we've even left the forest, is already planning her next after-dark scorpion search. "I'm not obsessed by them, I just love seeing them," she laughs.



Bingo! We spot our first scorpion of the night. Below: Lauren Ogden (left) and friend Robyn Hall carefully search under rocks for scorpions; unlike scorpions, organisms like mushrooms and algae can produce their own glow. Pictures by Tim the Yowie Man, Maree Clout



A special species that gets a bad rap

1. SCORPIONS can be found on every continent except for Antarctica.

2. Of the 2500 species of scorpions, only about 1 per cent are deadly to humans and thankfully none of these are found in Australia.

3. Living in many different places, from our deserts to woodland like that around Canberra, Australia is home to more than 100 species of scorpions.

4. Australian scorpions range in length from 2 centimetres to 12 centimetres and are mostly nocturnal, spending their days hidden under debris such as bark and leaves or in burrows, often under rocks. This elusive behaviour means unless you are purposefully looking for a scorpion, you will unlikely see one.

5. Scorpions are common arachnids and



Scorpions are arachnids and predate the dinosaurs. Picture Robyn Hall

have eight legs like spiders, mites, and ticks.

6. Despite having six to 12 eyes, scorpions do not have good eyesight but appear to have excellent low light sensitivity, which helps them to both avoid harsh sunlight and

to navigate by starlight or moonlight.

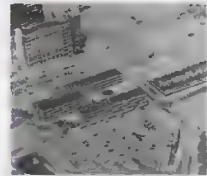
7. Scorpions don't only use their sting to kill their prey (cockroaches and smaller invertebrates), they also use it to defend themselves against predators such as snakes, lizards, and birds.

8. If food is scarce, scorpions can slow down their metabolism to live off as little as just one insect per year.

9. Scorpions predate the dinosaurs and some scientists believe they were the first animals to move from water to land hundreds of millions of years ago.

10. Prehistoric fossils of scorpions found in Scotland show that their appearance hasn't changed over this time. They have, however, changed in size, with today's scorpions measuring half the size of their ancient ancestors.

WHERE IN CANBERRA?



Recognise this town centre? Picture courtesy of ACT Heritage Library

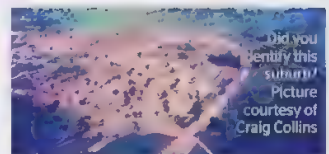
RATING: Easy- Medium

Clue: First Fleet

How to enter: Email your guess along with your name and address to tym@linet.net.au. The first correct email sent after 10am, Saturday November 18 wins a double pass to **Dendy, the Home of Quality Cinema**.

DENDY CINEMAS

LAST WEEK



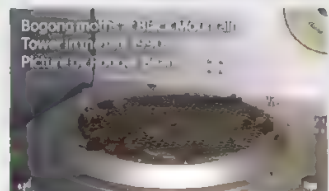
Did you identify this suburb? Picture courtesy of Craig Collins

Congratulations to Jordan Gannaway of Holder who was the first reader to correctly identify last week's photo as the suburb of Fisher, under construction and looking out towards Mount Arawang and Kambah Pool Road. Jordan just beat several other readers to the prize, including former Fisher resident Jules Bray of Lake George, Maureen Marshall of Nicholls, and Emily Rushton, a long-time reader but first-time quiz entrant.

"Isn't it great to have a historic record like this," says Craig Collins of Coombs whose brother Geoff took the photo during a flight from Albury to Canberra in a Cessna in 1969.

"That's Kalgoorlie Crescent freshly sealed, left of centre," reveals Craig. "Stromlo High School now stands bottom left, and the Tuggeranong Parkway was later built to the left of the development."

SPOTTED



Bogong moths - 1896-1916. Old Tower in the background. Picture by Rodger Bean

While recently waiting for coffee at Watson shops, Rodger Bean noticed a "blob" fall from one of the trees, closely followed by a currawong.

Upon investigating, Rodger found that the blob was a bogong moth, which he promptly relocated into an adjacent oak tree.

"I haven't seen one of these for years, hopefully it marks their return to the region," says Rodger, whose annual maintenance task during the late 1990s while working as a transmitter tech for Capital TV at Black Mountain Tower "was to clean the moths out of the old analogue TV transmitter".

SIMULACRA CORNER



Interesting rock formation in the Tinderies. Picture by Markus Buchhorn

Serial simulacra submitter Markus Buchhorn is at it again. Do you remember the Concorde - the long-retired Franco-British supersonic airline? Markus reckons this rock formation on his property resembles two concordes nose-to-nose. What do you think?



Barry Keoghan in *Saltburn*.
Picture supplied

Take a twisted, strange journey

MA15, 131 MINUTES
SALTBURN.

★★★★

Jane Freebury

For someone hanging out for an invitation to stay with members of the English upper class on their country estates, this clever, queasy drama may give them pause. Equally, welcoming a stranger as a house guest may give their moneyed potential hosts pause too. The very idea vaguely implied by the title of salt rubbed into a wound is enough to have the rest of us reaching for a soothing balm or sidestepping any such invite in the first place.

Saltburn's writer-director and producer, Emerald Fennell, made a riveting black satire that appeared several years ago. That first film, *Promising Young Woman* with Carey Mulligan, revealed a penchant to reach for high dramatic stakes and carry a risky narrative idea through to its logical conclusion. Whether it is a riposte to the idea of male privilege being carried forward by a

new generation of young male professionals who should know better, or a hypothetical about class envy and class warfare, Fennell will startle as she dares you to stay with her on the journey.

It is set at an unremarkable point in the recent present. It's 2006 when Oliver Quick, Irish actor Barry Keoghan in a terrific star turn, enters Oxford on a scholarship. His accent is Liverpudlian, immediately giving the game away to his posh college cohort. He is diligent and overly prepared for the coming term, but lacks style and panache so he is destined to make a dolt of himself among bright young things like Farleigh Start (Archie Madekwe) in the undergrad social scene. It just so happens he's in luck, however, when he connects with Felix Catton (Australian actor Jacob Elordi) who happens to be at the same college. Everything comes easily to tall, handsome Felix - friendship, romantic attachment and the universal admiration of his peers.

Felix is everything he isn't, and Oliver seems to be smitten. His new friend is generous and kind and moved by his story about his background. Oliver is an only child with

parents who struggled with addiction and their mental health. Suddenly, Oliver takes a call from home. His Dad has died, after an accident while he was drunk. Felix soon invites him to stay over the summer with him and his family at their ancestral home, *Saltburn*. An imposing 14th-century pile in Northamptonshire was the main location for the shoot.

The moment that Oliver arrives at *Saltburn* for introductions to Felix's friends and eccentric family is delicious, not least because we get to meet Richard E. Grant, overacting as usual as the befuddled patriarch, Sir James Catton. From the moment that Felix's svelte mother Elspeth (Rosamund Pike) steps forward to take a closer look at her son's interesting new friend, the dynamic starts to emerge. Oliver has just become the latest new specimen to arrive from the world outside, the real world, a curiosity who might provide diverting entertainment.

Their most recent guest is on her way out the door. Pamela (Carey Mulligan as you've not seen her before), the complete limpet, has begun to outstay her welcome. Mulli-

gan's gloomy manner and deadpan delivery as Pamela, and Pike's callous imperiousness as Elspeth, drifting around the estate like an actor in an invisible play, are pitch perfect.

During Oliver's tryst with Felix's sister, Venetia (Alison Oliver), yet another character who is a compulsive smoker, it becomes clear that there is a lot more to our bumbling upstart than at first appeared the case. The invitation to sex was clear, but the uptake by Oliver is so self-assured that the nerdy, awkward mask that he wears begins to slip, culminating in a road trip back home that reveals the extent of his sociopathy, that he hates who he is and where he comes from. That is, of course, the point - that being awestruck by the privileged classes engenders those feelings of self-loathing too.

This new film from Fennell, a strange and twisted though entertaining journey, doesn't land with the same zing as her first. Another film about a man who would do anything for a place in the sun, *The Talented Mr Ripley*, was also a tough watch despite its many qualities. *Brideshead Revisited*, also charting similar territory, offers nuance without the aftertaste.

New film on gay relations in the samurai world

JAPANESE actor-director Takeshi Kitano says he wanted his new film *Kubi* to show the world of samurai in ways that mainstream movies have rarely done before, by portraying the homosexual, love-hate relationship of warlords in one of Japan's best known historical episodes.

"What is never shown is relationships between men at that time, including their homosexual relationships," Kitano said ahead of the opening of his film in Japan.

The story of *Kubi*, or "neck", shows the 1582 ambush of Oda Nobunaga, one of Japan's best-known warlords, at the Honnoji temple in Kyoto by an aide, Akechi Mitsuhide.

Past dramas from that period have only shown "very cool actors and pretty aspects",

Kitano said.

"This is a period when especially men were keeping up with their lives for other men within these relationships, including sexual relationships," he said. "So I wanted to delve into showing these more murky relationships."

He wrote a script for the idea 30 years ago, then released the novel *Kubi* in 2019, leading to his production of the film. He also plays Toyotomi Hideyoshi, who takes over after Nobunaga, in the film.

Kitano, 76, began his career as stand-up comedian Beat Takeshi before becoming a TV star.

Kitano said he has seen the dark side of the Japanese entertainment industry, which recently has been shaken by a scandal

involving the decades-long sexual abuse of hundreds of boys by the late founder of a powerful talent agency. Recently, the suicide of a member of a hugely popular female-only theatre company Takarazuka prompted criticism over its alleged overwork and widespread bullying.

"In old days, in the Japanese entertainment industry, I wouldn't go as far as calling it slavery, but people used to be treated as commodities, from which money is made while showing them off. This is something that's still left in the culture of Japanese entertainment," Kitano said.

In his early days as a comedian, there were times when he was paid not even one-tenth of the worth of his work, he said. "There have been improvements in

recent years, but I've always thought severe circumstances have existed."

Kitano is known for violent depictions in his gangster movies like *Outrage*.

Kubi, which refers to traditional beheadings, has ample violence. Violence and comedy are an inseparable part of daily lives, he said.

"Laughter is a devil," he said. "When people are very serious, such as at weddings or funerals, we always have a comedy or a devil coming in and making people laugh."

Same for violent films, he said. "Even when we are filming very serious scenes, there are comedic elements that come in on the set, as the devil comes in and makes people laugh," though those scenes are not in the final version of films.

November 18, 2023

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WELCOME

From the editor

Sarah Maguire



GRAB the hiking boots, or the (hire) car keys, or both - we bring you this week our Road Trips and Treks special issue, and it's bursting with ideas to inspire you for your travels in 2024 and beyond. Turn to page 6 to discover award-winning travel author and passionate hiker Andrew Bain's favourite treks across the planet, to suit all levels of experience. Not sure whether four wheels or two feet will shape your next holiday? Here to help as always are our inimitable duelling columnists in Two Ways to Go. Don't miss them on page 18.

Lee Atkinson, who has penned our three-page marquee story this week, starting on page 10, is an authority on road trips - she has written eight books about them, including *Ultimate Road Trips World*, which will be published by Hardie Grant this time next year. She has revealed for *Explore* a selection of her all-time favourites, and they are taking us from the US state of Colorado to New Caledonia to Tuscany in Italy. Even Thailand, a place I had never considered, until now, as a road-trip destination.

But Atkinson knows what she's talking about - and she loves road trips: "The thing I love most is the sense of freedom, not just because you can do whatever and go wherever you please, but because you never know what special new place you'll find round the next bend. It's the closest you'll get to being a modern-day explorer," she told me. "And don't sweat it if you get lost, you may just end up somewhere wonderful; it's part of the fun."



POSTCARD TASMANIA

All the colours of a cloudy sky

"GOOD old Gothic Tassie." The words from a previous trip south reoccur to me as we hug the windswept shores on the Bay of Fires walk, offered by the Tasmanian Walking Company. Big skies with piled clouds, foaming surf, bright orange lichen-covered granite and tiny jewel-like bugs

appear and disappear as we pick our way between boulders, across wet sand and through low ferns. It's summer, but the skies alone are worthy of an Antipodean Heathcliff: scudding clouds, swirling rainstorms off the coast and scowling grey. Yet under those skies we find the warmth,

companionship and fine food of the Bay of Fires Lodge at walk's end. Travails are quickly forgotten (a warm foot bath and a glass of sparkling helps) and Tasmania again delivers: a trail traversed in awe, remembered with fondness and laughter

-STUART WASHINGTON

50
length in kilometres
of the Bay of Fires
coastline on
Tasmania's north-
east coast

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CHOOSE THE OPEN AIR

SPiRiT of TASMANIA



Go 'hiking' underwater

A HOLIDAY in WA is not quite complete without a road trip to Margaret River from Perth. And no drive to the state's premier wine region is complete without a stop at the seaside town of Busselton, where a 1.8-kilometre-long timber-piled jetty - built in 1865 and still the longest in the southern hemisphere - is the centre

of action. But things are about to heat up even more this summer. Thirteen underwater sculptures by local artists have been installed at the end of the jetty, creating a trail that will not only get the snorkellers and divers excited, but will also act as a man-made reef that'll encourage colourful marine life to flourish in these crystal-clear waters.

The Mermaid's Muse (left) by Daniel Fisher, which brings a 2.2-metre-high mermaid face to face with a one-metre-tall octopus, is just one of the mild-steel sculptures you can enjoy as part of this underwater 'hike'. Just don't forget to grab a map and follow the signage to explore the rest of the artworks. busseltonjetty.com.au

- AKASH ARORA



POCKET GUIDE BANGKOK THAILAND



What's good about it: Straddling the Chao Phraya River, Bangkok is a lively, modern and heady metropolis. Witness long-held traditions at vibrant temples, palaces and museums. Discover floating markets, get lost in Chinatown or enjoy a tuk-tuk ride.

Best for: Visit Phra Borom Maha Ratcha Wang, the official residence of the Chakri dynasty's kings. The Grand Palace is a must-see, housing bright-gold temples, pavilions and gardens. Head to Wat Pho, where you'll find the enormous Reclining Buddha. Bangkok's cuisine is flavourful, inspired by Chinese, Khmer, European and Muslim influences. Elegant rooftop bars and upmarket hotels engage the senses, but the city hums to the aromas and tastes of its world-renowned street food in Siam Square and Silom Road.

Best time to visit: November to March is most pleasurable, when the heat and humidity are at their lowest.

Getting there: On Viking's 13-day Bangkok, Bali & Beyond voyage from Bangkok to Bali or the 29-day South Pacific Sojourn from Sydney to Bangkok. vikingcruises.com.au

WHAT'S NEW

The road ahead: trends in 2024

HITTING the road to discover Australia's regional gems has been identified as one of the top trends for 2024 in a new annual travel report. Expedia Group's *Unpack '24* uses online data from Expedia, Stayz and Wotif, plus a survey of 20,000 global travellers, to predict how we will go exploring in 2024. The report also identifies the trending international flight paths: number one, with a 430 per cent increase, is Los Angeles to Tokyo; closely followed by Perth to Bali (up 350 per cent). The winning domestic destinations are Broome (up 185 per cent), Uluru (up 120 per cent) and Hamilton Island (up 105 per cent). One of the biggest trends is the rise of hip Aussie towns. More than a third of the survey respondents say travelling to regional towns has increased in appeal, with Newcastle and Bellingen in NSW, Kirra in Queensland, and Geelong and Lorne in Victoria appearing in the top five spots. And the other trends are...

Dry tripping

Beyond the Feb Fast and Dry July events, there are more sober-curious travellers. With research finding that almost 40 per cent of Australian travellers are interested in alcohol-free or low-alcohol travel options, expect to find more no-alcohol bars, cellar doors, distilleries and menus.

Set-jetting

In 2023, travellers have been turning to TV, movies and streaming services for travel inspo and this "set-jetting" trend shows no signs of slowing down, with *Lioness* (Mallorca), *Bad Monkey* (Florida Keys and Bahamas) and new seasons of *Bridgerton*, *The Crown* (the UK) and - apparently - even *Squid Game 2* (South Korea) firing up our wanderlust in 2024.

Destination dupes

Coined after the TikTok movement, where dupes are affordable alternatives to popular products, this trend refers to the less crowded, lesser-known alternatives to popular holiday spots - unexpected, probably more affordable, but just as delightful as the tried-and-true destinations. Think Taipei instead of Seoul, Pattaya instead of Bangkok and Paros instead of Santorini.

Tour tourism

In 2023, Taylor Swift's Eras and Beyoncé's Renaissance tours drove record-breaking concert sales, as well as tourism. This will continue to grow, with more than 60 per cent of survey respondents saying they would travel to a concert outside of their own town, and more than 40 per cent using a concert as an excuse to visit a new place. Unexpected places on Expedia's list of top



Top trend: Road trips to regional towns.

tour tourism destinations include Kuala Lumpur, Edmonton and Mexico City.

Alternate occasions

Beyond the traditional girls' weekends and family reunions, travellers are looking for any excuse to take a group getaway in 2024. Survey respondents name-checked first-date-versaries, quit-my-job and promotion parties, and even puppy-moons as excuses to travel.

And, of course, AI!

Despite all the buzz about ChatGPT, only 6 per cent of respondents have been using AI to plan their trips in 2023. But that's about to change; generative AI users will come of age, with almost 40 per cent saying they would use this tech to plan, shop and book.

- KATE COX



Tasmania calling

The Apple Isle is home to some of Australia's best road trips and it's easy to embark on one of them in your own car. Just take the Spirit of Tasmania ferry from Geelong, Victoria, and let the adventure

begin as soon as you set sail. Enjoy scenic views, and great food and drinks along the way, before retiring to your private cabin. From \$135 between January and March 2024. **See:** spiritoftasmania.com.au



Street smart

Whether you want to skirt along the coast on world-class roads in Victoria or want to hit the dusty unsealed tracks in country NSW, here's the perfect excuse to plan a last-minute holiday on

four wheels. Avis Australia is offering a third day free when you hire a car for three days or more over a weekend. And the news gets better: the deal is valid in all locations in Australia and New Zealand, so you can even fly to the South Island and drive from Christchurch to Queenstown for one of the southern hemisphere's most breathtaking road trips. But you'll have to be quick: the deal is only valid until December 21. Simply use the code TPLA010 at checkout. **See:** avis.com.au

Peak adventure

It's one of Australia's top ski resorts, but - located in the heart of Kosciuszko National Park in NSW - Thredbo also promises a spectacular summertime holiday. Arriving here in a car, with staggering views of steep peaks and deep valleys is one warm-weather experience everyone should have at least once in their lifetime. Just don't forget to check into Thredbo Alpine Hotel; the resort is offering discounts of up to 31 per cent on two-night stays until June 6, 2024. **See:** thredbo.com.au

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TREKS WORLD'S BEST



MANY years ago, I stepped out onto the hiking trails of Victoria's Wilsons Promontory for my first overnight bushwalk, and a monster was born. I've barely stopped hiking since, traipsing over mountain ranges, along coastlines and through deserts around the world. Inevitably, I've gathered favourites - trails that continue to ramble through my mind long after I've finished them. Here's a selection of memorable hikes across the world, gathered together according to difficulty.

FIRST STEPS

There's a fierceness to the cliffs of Tasmania's Tasman Peninsula that isn't reflected in the effort required to hike the **Three Capes Track**. The four-day, 48-kilometre walk edges across the tops of Australia's tallest sea cliffs, high above the raging Southern Ocean, but nights are spent in the country's swankiest public hiking huts, complete with mattresses, USB ports, deck chairs and all cooking equipment, reducing the burden of weight on your back.

The luxuries are all delivered by nature along Queensland's **Thorsborne Trail**. This 32-kilometre beach-hop on Hinchinbrook Island, Australia's largest island national park, is typically spread over four days, making for an average of just eight kilometres a day. Even more relaxing are its many cooling swim holes, such as the natural infinity pools atop Zoe Falls and the hidden-in-plain-sight Blue Lagoons.

New Zealand's Great Walks are an excellent introduction to multi-day hiking. More than a century ago, the **Milford Track** was dubbed the "finest walk in the world" and little has changed to contradict that. Crossing the exposed and spectacular McKinnon Pass, the four-day walk is the ultimate way into Milford Sound.

An even more enticing Great Walk, for mine, is the North island's 45-kilometre **Tongariro Northern Circuit**. Lapping the perfectly conical Mount Ngauruhoe (aka Mount Doom for *Lord of the Rings* fans) and incorporating the famed Tongariro Alpine

Crossing - sometimes called the world's best day walk - it's a volcanic spectacular of craters, steaming fumaroles, lava bombs and brilliantly coloured lakes.

Think European hiking and you might inevitably think of the Alps, but my favourite compact hiking destination here is northern Spain's **Picos de Europa**. Just 40 kilometres in length, this mountain range is split by the Garganta del Cares, a narrow gorge almost as deep as the Grand Canyon. Inside it is an 11-kilometre trail, etched at times into the cliffs, which rise up to 1500 metres overhead. Stay on for another couple of days and there's another excellent trail to Naranjo de Bulnes, a 500-metre-high tower of rock with a small mountain hut for hikers and rock climbers at its base.

STEPPING UP

If you think the Great Ocean Road is aptly named, wait until you see the **Great Ocean Walk**. Stretching for 110 kilometres from Apollo Bay to the Twelve Apostles, the trail's entire journey is on the ocean side of the road, magnifying those famously familiar views. My overriding memories of this hike aren't the big-ticket features - the Twelve Apostles or Cape Otway - but the places you miss along the drive, such as Milanesia Beach, Rainbow Falls and Wreck Beach.

While many thousands of hikers head to Chile's Torres del Paine National Park each

year, just a few hundred find their way to far-southerly Isla Navarino, even though it's a virtual scale model of the Torres. The 53-kilometres **Dientes Circuit** is the world's southernmost trek, looping through the craggy Dientes de Navarino mountains, briefly in sight (on a fine day) of notorious Cape Horn. The mountains are dramatic, and so is the weather (I've been snowed in at camp in the middle of summer).

The main thing to bear on Canada's **Skyline Trail** is, well, bears. More than half of the 44-kilometre hike from Maligne Lake to the edge of Jasper is above the treeline, making for vast views over the Rocky Mountains, equalled by the very real possibility of bear sightings (though I saw none when I hiked the trail). There's more than 1000 metres of altitude variation, making for plenty of climbs and descents through its two mountain passes.

While most of the Seven Summits - the highest mountains on each continent - are the domain of mountaineers, Africa's highest peak, Mt Kilimanjaro, yields comfortably to hikers. There are seven different routes to the 5895-metre summit, and my favourite is the **Lemosho Route**. This ascends through the imposing Barranco Wall, which requires hands as much as feet, and finally onto the summit past Kilimanjaro's remarkable - and, alas, melting - glaciers. Altitude is the greatest challenge, which makes the eight-day

Every step of the way

From coast to mountain, easy to heart-racing, there's a hike guaranteed to hook you. By Andrew Bain

Clockwise from main: Camping on the Dientes Circuit, Chile; wildflowers on the Tour de Monte Rosa in the Alps, cooling off on the Thorsborne Trail, Queensland; Grampians Peaks Trail.

Pictures: Andrew Bain

Lemosho a more comfortable approach than the ever-popular Marangu Route, which many hikers ascend in as little as five days, albeit with low success rates.

STEP IT OUT

Australia is a big country, suitably filled with big hiking trails, from the 1000-kilometre **Bibbulmun Track** through the towering forests of south-west WA to the 650-kilometre **Australian Alps Walking Track** across the High Country of NSW and Victoria. More approachable long-distance walks are the **Larapinta Trail** (see story on page 8) and the 13-day **Grampians Peaks Trail**, which opened in 2021 and runs head to toe through Victoria's Grampians, stopping each night in purpose-built campgrounds.

Many of my favourite long hikes have been high across Europe's Alps, where the challenging terrain is moderated by the presence of mountain huts. The popular **Tour du Mont Blanc** is a gorgeous lap of the Alps' highest mountain, racking up more than 10,000 metres of climb along its 170 kilometres. By virtue of being second, the 165-kilometre **Tour de Monte Rosa**, circuiting the Alps' second-tallest mountain, gets less recognition and yet, having hiked both, I prefer the latter for its empty stretches of trail, a glacier-top descent into Zermatt and time in the company of the Matterhorn.

Similarly in Nepal, you can take the well-beaten path through the Khumbu Valley to Everest Base Camp, but the finest approach is a less trodden one. Veering through a side valley to Gokyo, where the 5357-metre Gokyo Ri peak has arguably the finest Everest view of all, it's then a pass crossing over the high Cho La to drop into the Khumbu just a couple of days' walk from base camp - arguably the world's most famous hiking destination.

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TREKS | NORTHERN TERRITORY



The sound of silence and bewitching natural beauty inspires awe on the Larapinta Trail, writes *Steve Evans*.

AWESOME is an overused word. It's come to mean little more than "very good". But sitting on the top of Mount Sonder in the Northern Territory as the sun comes up over the vast and ancient landscape is truly awesome. It inspires awe.

It makes you pause and just ponder in silence over our tiny place on this planet in its millions of years of development.

In front of you lies the seemingly endless terrain of the Red Centre of Australia in its great vastness. It takes the breath away. It takes the speech away, too - you just sit on the rocks and listen to the sound of the silence.

Or it takes what breath is left after trekking for four hours to the top in pitch darkness with a headlamp to show you only the next step on the rough, ankle-bending surface. The climb starts at three in the morning to reach the top by sunrise at a quarter past seven. It is a tough trek for all but the toughest trekkers.

But three hours in, each heavy step only makes the emerging pink of the light rippling on the clouds even more wondrous. And then the sunlight bursts over the mountains.

Everyone has a bucket list. The Taj Mahal. The canyons of Manhattan. But the sunrise seen on the Larapinta Trail in the Northern Territory of Australia is a sight as wonderful as any of them. It really is awesome.

All about the trail

The Larapinta Trail is in West MacDonnell National Park (Tjoritja, as the Aranda people refer to the West MacDonnell Ranges). It

stretches west to east for 223 kilometres, with Mount Sonder (1379 metres) at the western end. The lowest point on the whole trail is Alice Springs Telegraph Station. A lot of the trail is high, along the ridges of the MacDonnell, Chewings and Heavitree ranges.

For the purposes of trekking, the Larapinta Trail is divided into 12 sections, with trailheads between each. Five of those trailheads can only be accessed on four-wheel-drive vehicles. All of the trailheads have water tanks. And you will need water to avoid dehydration (three litres a day is the recommendation).

The Larapinta Trail is what trekkers call "type 2 fun". The enjoyment comes after the scrambling and walking. The hard slog is often a very hard slog. It is not for casual walkers. It is for people who are fit - not marathon fit but serious walking fit. If your only exercise is the walk from the car to a chair, don't try it.



It takes the breath away. It takes the speech away, too.

Having said that, I'm in my late 60s. I'm not a couch potato but I'm not a fitness fiend, either. I don't go to the gym. My previous idea of a good walk was an hour or two on the flat path round Lake Burley Griffin in Canberra.

On the Larapinta Trail, I walked for three days, eight hours a day. It was tough - very tough in parts. The slopes can be steep - steep enough for scrambling up or down but not so steep as to demand mountaineering skills. Vertigo rarely kicked in. At the end of one day, I could barely walk. I lost my balance a few times because my legs had turned to jelly.

There were other trials like wading across a river with a backpack held above water and boots tied around my neck. Losing balance on the uneven surface of the riverbed would not have been good.

But the whole experience was fabulous - one of the best of my life. I would even say it was life-changing, exposing the limits of my body, but also telling me that what I had previously thought were the limits when I did city walks were actually well within my capabilities. Age had not withered my muscles but a lack of exercise had.

The longest section of the trail is Section 9 at nearly 29 kilometres - but the stated distance doesn't tell you much because of the steep gradients. The guides reckon Section 9 can be done in 12 hours, including time to see the spectacular views from the top of Mount Giles (1389 metres - about 10 metres higher than Mount Sonder).

I'm not so sure about 12 hours. It obviously depends on fitness. "Hard: suitable for experienced walkers," is the official description.

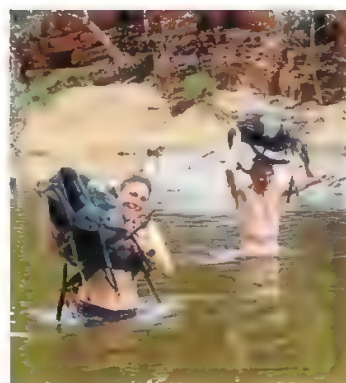
The shortest section of the trail is Section 10 at nine kilometres and a doable four hours. In between are sections of different degrees of difficulty.

The official advice is that the whole trail can be walked in just over two weeks: "It is one of Australia's best long-distance treks which can be completed comfortably over a 15- to 16-day period, but the duration will vary based on your level of fitness and time constraints."

Walking is best done in winter. Summer would be unbearable and probably dangerous. Even in winter temperatures range widely through the day - from just above freezing at night to 22 degrees in the day when I did it.

So what's it like?

Hard but a great experience, I'd say. I went with World Expeditions, who describe some of their treks on the Larapinta Trail as "in comfort" which is sort of true. It's not the Four Seasons (the Four Seasons doesn't



have drop toilets) but it's not Burke and Wills either.

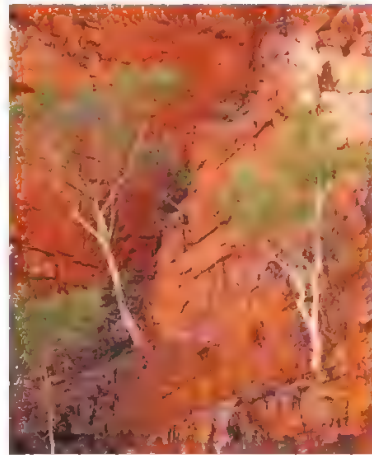
Along the trail, the company has a string of their own semi-permanent campsites. These circles of tents offer some comfort at the end of the hard trek. Main packs are transported to the next site each day so trekkers carry only what they need on the day's trek. This load is not negligible. It includes three litres of water and the layers of clothes you need. Height brings wind and cold.

The camp sites are small and isolated so you experience the bush and its sounds and smells. Trekkers stay under canvas on camp beds, with the option of taking the bed and a swag out under the amazing stars. There's





Clockwise from main: Glen Helen Gorge on the Larapinta Trail; by the water; hiking through the bushland; ghost gums growing out of sheer cliffs; the central tent for dining and socialising; a water crossing. Pictures: Luke Tscharke; Steve Evans



a central tent for dining and socialising. Showers are private - closed off by tarpaulin sheets - but outdoors. Water is hot from a gas heater (known for some reason as a donkey). The toilets are drop toilets.

But above all, the food is excellent. The organisers take the view that hard trekking demands softer treatment at the beginning and end of the day. And that primarily means good food.

Breakfasts were what breakfasts should be: scrambled eggs and bacon; grilled haloumi cheese; an abundance of raw fruit and fruit toast; toasted bagels with cream

“

It's not the Four Seasons but it's not Burke and Wills either.

cheese and smoked salmon. Good coffee and good tea.

Dinners were what dinners should be: lamb roasted in a camp oven; barramundi done in tin foil on a barbecue; an abun-

dance of vegetables roasted in a camp oven; apple crumble cooked in a camp oven, with custard; pavlova. Good wine and good beer - big-bodied shiraz; pinot gris from the Adelaide Hills and excellent ales from the Alice Springs Brewing Company.

There is attention to important detail. The white wine and the beer are chilled. The wine glasses are good wine glasses, with fine, thin glass (you may not think that's important but I do - a good drink needs the right glass).

And it is all in an amazing atmosphere. There is nothing quite like hearing the

silence at dawn in the heart of the bush in outback Australia, with that silence suddenly broken by a dawn chorus as the sun breaks in pink across the clouds. Or hearing an owl screeching at night.

Despite the wonderful silence, it is not, of course, true that the land is empty. Indigenous people have occupied it for millennia.

One evening, an Indigenous entrepreneur gave a talk about local bush foods. Rayleen Brown has a business - Kungkas Can Cook - collecting, marketing and cooking with herbs, fruits and roots which she said had "been enjoyed by Aboriginal communities for over 60,000 years. We have shortened the supply chain so that local women harvesters benefit from every purchase."

Arrernte elder, Kumalie (Rosalie) Riley, gave a talk about the traditions and experiences of her people. Her pride and quiet anger shone out as she stood in the shadow of Simpsons Gap and talked about the Stolen Generation when children were taken from their families - taken from her family.

Sense of achievement

This level of trekking may be type 2 fun - but it is fun, albeit in a delayed gratification kind of way. It demands fitness and the right gear - good boots, trekking poles, layers of clothes for different conditions.

Part of the fun is in the pleasure of achievement - completing a strenuous hike - but part of the fun is in the journey itself: the gazing in wonder at plants which somehow survive in the harshest environment (like ghost gum growing out of sheer cliff faces).

And there is the enjoyment of adventure in the ancient, awesome and thought-provoking terrain - an experience that is sure to stay with a person forever.

The writer was a guest of World Expeditions

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COVER STORY

WINDING ROADS AND *wild* LOOPS



Road trips aficionado **LEE ATKINSON** nominates her all-time favourite overseas journey - in the US state of Colorado - closely followed by seven more of the world's best driving adventures.

GETTING high in Colorado takes on a whole new meaning when you're driving the San Juan Skyway and Million Dollar Highway.

Known as the "most beautiful road in America", this twisty, curvy, 320 kilometre strip winds across the Rockies, up and over some of the highest paved mountain passes in the country, through wild west towns full of history, past hot springs, ski slopes and ancient villages carved into cliff faces. Forget Route 66: when it comes to getting your kicks this really is America's ultimate road trip.

Start in Cortez, not far from the Four Corners Monument, where Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado and Utah meet. The area is home to the highest density of archaeological sites in the US, inhabited by Ancestral Puebloan cultures for at least 10,000 years. Pueblo means village, and the best known one - Cliff Palace - was carved into the side of a cliff in what is now Mesa Verde National Park around 1200 CE. Rangers lead tours into the dwellings that involve taking a lot of steps and scaling a few ladders, but this is America so you can also explore the park in your car on a scenic drive that takes you to several lookouts where you can see excavated villages, hundreds of metres above the valley floor. Imagining how families ever managed to go about their daily lives that far above the ground is guaranteed to make you giddy.

From ancient canyonlands to winding mountain roads, the next section of our road trip was a complete change of scene. The San Juan Skyway is a truly spectacular route that snakes through the San Juan Mountains

to the ski resort town of Telluride (before it was famous for skiing, it was better known as the place where Butch Cassidy robbed his first bank, back in 1889 when it was a gunslinging mining town) and beyond to Ouray, a historic town well deserving of its nickname "the Switzerland of America". It sits at an elevation of 2377 metres, encircled by even higher peaks, and it's impossible not to be bowled-over by the beauty of the location. The mountains are laced with waterfalls, canyons and rock-climbing routes, so it's a bit of a magnet for outdoor adventurers, but we opted for more gentle pursuits like soaking in the town's hot springs and bar-hopping from one beautifully restored Victorian-era hotel to another, all looking like they were built for a Hollywood movie set.

Just when you thought this road trip couldn't possibly get any better, it does. Known as the Million Dollar Highway, the 40-kilometre section of the road between Ouray and Silverton is one of America's most dramatic mountain drives.

No-one quite remembers how the road got its name: some say that's how much it cost to build, per mile, back in the 1930s. Others reckon it's all about the gold ore in the roadway's fill. Either way, it's a million-dollar view at every turn, of which there are very many. Climbing up and over three high passes well above 3000 metres, it's narrow with no shoulder or guardrails between you and a rather dizzying drop. Catch your breath - although at these elevations it may be harder than you expect - with a stroll around Silverton, yet another

town straight out of wild west central casting with a main street full of colourfully painted wooden buildings.

It will take about an hour to drive down through the San Juan National Forest to Durango, a charming riverside town with good boutique shopping - think fashion, outdoor gear, local art and tribal jewellery - and a wide range of places to eat and drink. Much like this road trip, it really is a taste of everything that makes this part of America great.

GOOD TO KNOW: A great drive for those who have a good head for heights. Allow at least five days to drive the 320 kilometres because there's lots to see and do. Time

your trip for the summer months; we did the trip in early May and, while the road was clear, there was deep snow on either side; in winter it has the highest avalanche hazard per mile in the country.

UNFORGETTABLE: Drinking in the splendid views with a sundowner or two on the rooftop of the Ouray Brewery (ouray-brewery.com).

EXPLORE MORE: colorado.com

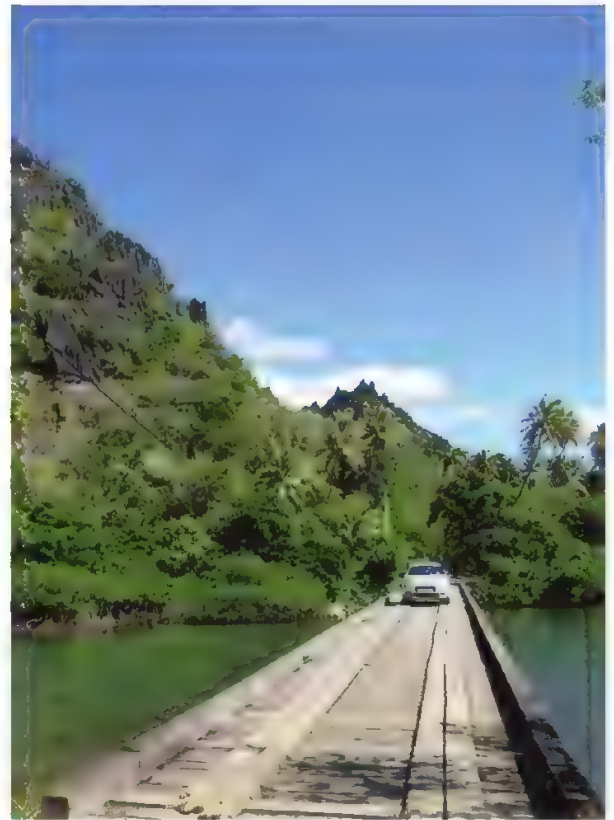
BEST ONE-DAY DRIVE

Icefields Parkway, Alberta, Canada (288 kilometres): This road trip packs in more OMG moments and scenic wonders into a relatively short space than just about any





Top, clockwise from main: Million Dollar Highway, Colorado, US; the Ring Road, Iceland; Grand Terre, New Caledonia, Silverton, Colorado. Below, from left: Ullapool on Scotland's North Coast 500; Siena Duomo in Tuscany; Southern Scenic Route, New Zealand. ON THE COVER: Tuscany, Italy. Pictures: Lee Atkinson; Shutterstock; Tourism New Zealand



other road trip I've ever done. Writhing its way between two UNESCO World Heritage-listed national parks of Banff and Jasper via Lake Louise in the Canadian Rockies, this is a ravishingly photogenic stretch of road, with waterfalls, rivers, lakes and lots of rocky peaks. You've also got a good chance of seeing bears, moose, caribou, elk and bighorn sheep.

To drive non-stop from Banff to Jasper would theoretically only take about three-and-a-half hours - it took us two-and-a-half days.

There's a lookout or scenic pull-over every couple of kilometres. We didn't stop at every

one but some, like Lake Louise, are non-negotiable. This turquoise lake fed by glaciers and encircled by mountains is one of the most visited spots in the Canadian Rockies. Most visitors head straight to the lakefront viewing area, snap a pic and leave. So rather than jostle for space there, stroll along the Lakeshore Trail around the northern edge of the lake and you'll soon leave most of the crowds behind. The other stop everyone makes is the Athabasca Glacier. It's part of the massive Columbia Icefield - one of the largest non-polar icefields in the world - and you can walk to the toe of the glacier. It's not as close as it used to be: in 1890, according to the rather sobering signs along the way, it was practically beside the road - these days it's about a half-hour walk from the car park.

Other highlights include the view from the lookout at the parkway's highest point, Bow Summit, the Weeping Wall, where several waterfalls cascade down a cliff face, and walks to Sunwapta Falls, Athabasca Falls and the Valley of the Five

Lakes, a five-kilometre hike near Jasper that lives up to its name visiting five stunningly beautiful jade-green lakes.

This trip's so good we were tempted to turn around and do it all again in the opposite direction: many road trippers do.

GOOD TO KNOW: Perfect for viewfinders, wildlife watchers and nature lovers. The Icefields Parkway is open all year, but can be very busy in July and August, when parking at Lake Louise and lookouts can be hard to find.

UNFORGETTABLE: Explore the mountain roads on a sidecar adventure with Jasper Motorcycle Tours (jaspermotorcycletours.com). Getting kitted up in leather riding chaps and jackets is half the fun. No experience is necessary - all you need to do is enjoy the ride.

EXPLORE MORE: icefieldsparkway.com

BEST BEACH ROAD TRIP

Grand Terre, New Caledonia (969 kilometres): Mention that you're planning a week-long road trip around New Caledonia's main island, Grand Terre, to most people and the first reaction is often disbelief, but this subtropical island - part of France since 1853 - is much bigger than you might think. This coastal loop is an off-the-beaten-track

way to discover the Kanak culture of the South Pacific as you journey from one beautiful bay to the next.

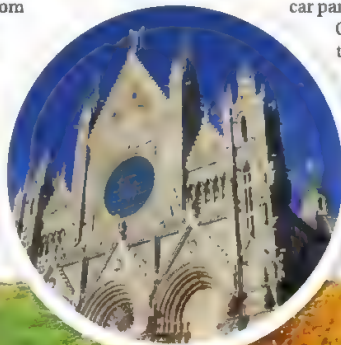
The west coast is cowboy country, and as you drive north from Noumea you'll pass plenty of cows grazing beneath the shade of spreading banyan and tamarind trees, and herds of wild horses along with broussards (bushmen) in big hats that look like they've been transplanted from a ranch in Wyoming. Horse riding tours are popular and, if you're here in August, many of the towns stage rodeos and agricultural shows.

From the northern tip, drive across La Chaine, the line of mountains that runs the length of Grande Terre, to circle back to Noumea along the lush east coast, with rainforests, waterfalls, tree ferns and coconut groves. Much of the road is right on the edge of the sea, and it's one mesmerising ocean view after another almost the entire way.

Cowboys, coconuts, croissants, coral reefs and beachside resorts - what more could you ask for on a holiday road trip?

GOOD TO KNOW: A great trip for those who like getting away from the cruise-ship holiday crowds and exploring, it's warm year round.

I Continued on page 12



From page 11

UNFORGETTABLE: Take a scenic flight over the much-photographed Heart of Voh, a natural heart-shaped clearing in the mangroves.

EXPLORE MORE: newcaledonia.travel

BEST ROUND TRIP

The Ring Road, Iceland (1332 kilometres): Volcanoes, gushing geysers, treeless peaks, thundering waterfalls, glaciers, ice caves and steaming hot pools - a lap of Iceland is a road trip into an otherworldly landscape that's wild, desolate and wonderfully quirky, every day delivering a new natural wonder. It's home to less than 380,000 people - although if you believe the Icelanders, there's also a healthy population of elves and trolls. There's little traffic to battle and, with just one main road to follow, navigating is easy. Which is just as well, because trying to pronounce the town names is practically impossible.

GOOD TO KNOW: If you're a keen photographer you'll love Iceland, but to see the best of it allow at least 10 days. We drove it in late September and enjoyed next to no traffic, daylight till about 9pm, and were even treated to a northern light show in the middle of the night.

UNFORGETTABLE: Covering 8 per cent of Iceland, Vatnajökull is Europe's largest glacier. Strap on some crampons and join one of the guided tours that will take you out onto the ice at Skaftafell. For a less energetic close-up look at the ice, stop at Jökulsárlón Glacier Lagoon, where bergy bits and mini-icebergs jostle for space; go early in the morning for beautiful reflections and fabulous photo opportunities.

EXPLORE MORE: visiticeland.com



Clockwise from main: Ready to cross the road on Scotland's North Coast 500; signage on NZ's Southern Scenic Route; there are 1864 curves on the Mae Hong Son loop in Thailand. Pictures: Lee Atkinson

WORLD'S WILDEST DRIVE

North Coast 500, Scotland (830 kilometres): Starting and finishing in Inverness this well-signposted touring route follows the coastline of northern Scotland for more than 500 miles (hence the name) or 800 kilometres, traversing some of the wildest and most remote countryside in Britain. From quaint fishing towns and windswept beaches to awe-inspiring mountain passes and beautiful lochs and forests, this really is a special drive. In the spirit of keeping the best to last - in terms of dramatic scenery - we drove the loop in an anti-clockwise direction, east to west, and each day, just when we thought it couldn't get any more spectacular, it invariably did.

GOOD TO KNOW: There are several steep and winding sections unsuitable for motorhomes. Avoid the summer crowds and traffic tailbacks and go during spring or autumn.

UNFORGETTABLE: Take your time driving between Durness and Ullapool, because it's cinematic scenery with row upon row of peaks unfolding before you as you drive south into the Assynt.

EXPLORE MORE: northcoast500.com

some of Thailand's highest mountains, through teak forests and jungles, fields of sunflowers, past waterfalls, hot springs and hilltop temples that glisten in the sun. Not for the faint-hearted, it's a challenging drive but the scenery is spectacular.

GOOD TO KNOW: If the idea of driving in Asia is daunting, hiring a driver is reasonably affordable, but if you are prone to motion sickness this road trip is probably not for you. Winter - mid-October to mid-April - is the best time to drive it, when days are dry and warm rather than sticky and hot, and nights can be cool.

UNFORGETTABLE: There are dozens of caves sprinkled along the Mae Hong Son Loop, but the most interesting is Tam Nam Lod (sometimes called Tam Lot). Guides carrying gas lanterns lead you deep into the cave system and a highlight is punting on the underground river between the chambers on a bamboo raft.

EXPLORE MORE: tourismthailand.org

BEST FOOD AND WINE TRAIL

Via Chianti, Tuscany, Italy (75 kilometres): This might not be a long drive, but just like your best elastic-topped pants you'll be keen to stretch it out because you'll want to squeeze in as many meals as you can. The SR222 links the great medieval city of Siena with Renaissance capital, Florence, and slices right through the middle of the Chianti wine region, through half a dozen picture-perfect hilltop towns. Spend at least a day in Siena and a couple in Florence. How long you take to get between the two depends on how much you want to eat. Let your appetite be your guide (and leave your diet at home).



GOOD TO KNOW: This is a road trip that will appeal to food and wine lovers just as much as it does art and history buffs. We did this trip in the middle of winter and it felt like we had all of Tuscany to ourselves.

UNFORGETTABLE: You'll never forget your first glimpse of the towers of San Gimignano shimmering on the horizon above the vine-clad hills like a medieval Manhattan. About 700 years ago the walled hilltop town had 72 towers, some a sky-scraping 70 metres high. Today only 14 are left standing, but it's still pretty impressive, and a UNESCO World Heritage site.

EXPLORE MORE: chianti.com

BEST RV ROAD TRIP

Southern Scenic Route, New Zealand (2330 kilometres): Kiwis have always been good at calling it as it is (the island in the north is the North Island, the one in the south is, well, you get the idea) so you know that when they call a route scenic it will be. This signposted route from Dunedin follows the coast around the southern tip of the

South Island before curling north through Fiordland to finish in Queenstown, but tack on a few extra days at each end to extend the loop to Christchurch - because there are just too many great roads on the South Island not to and Christchurch has an international airport and is the place to pick up and return your hired car or RV. It delivers the best of the South Island in one trip.

GOOD TO KNOW: November offers long warm-ish days and is in the middle of whitebait season, which means you can find the delicious fishy fritters that Kiwis are (rightly) obsessed with everywhere you go.

UNFORGETTABLE: "Freedom camping" - camping for free or just a few dollars in roadside reserves and parking areas - is allowed in hundreds of places across the country, many in gorgeous spots beside beaches and rivers, overlooking lakes and encircled by snow-covered peaks. What's not to love about waking up to a million-dollar view for free?

EXPLORE MORE: southernscenicroute.co.nz





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TOP TIPS **DRIVING OVERSEAS**

Honk if you're ready to ride

HAVING your own set of wheels on an international holiday is the ultimate ticket to freedom, getting you past the tourist traps and really exploring. Here are 10 tips that will help keep your next road trip trouble free.

1. Hiring a car

The earlier you book, the cheaper the price. Picking up from the airport is always more expensive: it can be much cheaper to catch a shuttle to the city and pick up from there. Getting behind the wheel on the wrong side of the road in a strange city after a long-haul flight is also never a good idea.

Think twice before accepting a "free" upgrade to a larger car. Smaller is often better, particularly in Europe and the UK where roads can be very narrow. Always confirm where you can take the car, such as unsealed roads, ferries and across international borders.

Before signing up for extra insurance, check to see if you're already covered by your travel insurance. When you pick up the car, do a complete inspection before you drive off, taking photographs on your phone and making a note on the paperwork of any damage, no matter how minor.

2. Leasing can save you

If you are planning a longer driving trip around Europe that includes France, consider leasing a car rather than hiring. The Citroen Drive Europe Scheme is a car-leasing scheme where you lease a brand-new

car from Citroen (Renault and Peugeot have similar schemes). It's only available to non-European residents. If you're planning to spend a month or more on the road, it's cheaper than car hire, includes unlimited kilometres, comprehensive insurance and roadside assistance. And you can drive it, and drop it off, anywhere within the EU. See driveaway.com.au

3. Get your international permit

Some countries require an International Driving Permit (IDP), essentially an authorised translation of your licence recognised in 174 countries. They are issued by your state automobile association, such as the NRMA, RACV or RACT.

4. Driving on the 'wrong' side

Many people are (understandably) nervous about driving on the opposite side of the road. It's not as hard as you might think, particularly when there's other traffic to follow. But there are times when you need to pay extra attention to override the habits of a lifetime, like turning out of side streets or driveways, especially if there are no lane markings.

Always look both ways when turning at an intersection or entering a roundabout because muscle memory will have you checking for traffic and pedestrians in the wrong direction. And opt for an automat-

ic, because the gear stick will be on the opposite side to what you're used to, and it's something you reach for without thinking.

5. Take extra care in car parks

It can be very easy to revert to the wrong

“Getting behind the wheel on the wrong side of the road in a strange city after a long-haul flight is also never a good idea.

side when you're intent on finding a place to park rather than concentrating on staying right.

6. Use a GPS

The last thing you need to worry about is navigating when you're trying to remember to stay on the right side of the road or searching for your hidden little gem of a hotel. If your hire car doesn't have navigation, invest in a local sim card with data for your phone so you can use Google maps, and make sure you have a hands-free holder for it, too. Be mindful though, that asking Google to take the shortest way is often not the quickest or easiest way.

7. Avoid peak hour in cities

Actually, avoid driving around cities - full stop. They are usually best explored on foot or by public transport anyway, and keeping abreast of the rules around LEZs (low emis-

sion zones) and LTZs (limited traffic zones) in European cities can be tricky.

8. Mind your motorway etiquette

Freeways and expressways are a fast way to travel long distances but expect to pay plenty of tolls along the way. Most of these can be paid with a credit card. Locals tend to drive at high speeds on motorways - in Germany many autobahns are unrestricted, which means cars in the fast lane (the left lane) can and do drive at whatever speed they want to. Never, ever dawdle in the fast lane and take extreme care when changing lanes. In some countries, you must drive with your lights on while on the motorway. If in doubt, keep them on.

9. Pay your foreign fines

It can be tempting to ignore parking tickets and speeding fines acquired in another country in the hope that the authorities won't be bothered pursuing them. But if you read the fine print in your rental-car contract you are responsible for any traffic infringements, and they will be passed on to you by the car-hire company.

The car hire company has your credit card details, so you will end up having the fine debited whether you like it or not, and it could end up more than double the original cost or even more for late payment.

10. Carry a credit card

Many European petrol stations and fuel stops are unstaffed, which means that they are open 24 hours. But if you have problems paying you're stuck. Many do not accept cash and will only work with credit cards with a chip and a pin, and will reject debit cards. In France, don't be surprised if your card is debited a maximum amount - often more than 100 euros plus the cost of the fuel. The difference is usually automatically refunded within a week or so, but make sure you have sufficient credit on your card or you won't be able to fill up, and may find your card declined when you try to pay for your next hotel room or restaurant meal.

From top: Hiring a car is a ticket to freedom; beware the pitfalls of parking and fines. Pictures: Shutterstock; Unsplash/Asa Rodger

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TRAVEL CITY WALKS

Little beauties in the big smoke

Enjoy the great outdoors on these Aussie wanders that show off the best of our capital cities, writes *Kristie Kellahan*.



SYDNEY

Looking for a great way to enjoy the beauty of Sydney Harbour and the surrounding beaches while burning serious calories? The Spit Bridge to Manly Walk is a winner. The 10-kilometre coastal path can be traversed in either direction (or one after the other, if you're very energetic), but most people choose to start at Spit Bridge and walk to Manly for the best harbour and city skyline views. The walk takes about 3.5-4 hours to complete, depending on your pace and how often you stop to take photos. Ambling along a mix of bush tracks, boardwalks and Aussie sand, you'll have the opportunity to cool off on the way with a quick dip at some of Sydney's prettiest beaches. Finish the walk at Manly with the reward of an ice cream, or a bite to eat at one of the beachside suburb's many excellent restaurants. svdney.com



BRISBANE

See the sights of the sunny Queensland capital on a 6.3-kilometre city loop trail that begins and ends at the Brisbane City Botanic Gardens. Locals will tell you it's best to start early, bring water and wear a hat. At a relaxed pace it should take about two-and-a-half hours to wind past Captain Burke Park, Goodwill Bridge and many more impressive landmarks. If you walk in an anti-clockwise direction, you'll avoid the steep hill between Howard Smith Wharves and Story Bridge. Along the way, stop for a cold drink at the famous Story Bridge Hotel or Felons Brewing Co (pictured). A few hundred metres past Captain Cook Bridge, ascend a staircase to Kangaroo Point Cliffs, affording some of the best views of the city. Expect to see climbers and abseilers-in-training on the heritage-listed cliffs. visit.brisbane.qld.au



PERTH

Life's a beach when you follow WA's Indian Ocean coastline north from City Beach. It's a walk that winds through some of Perth's ritziest suburbs, prime swimming spots and tranquil bushland. Start at the southern end of City Beach, then head north on the well-maintained path. Need to fuel up? There are plenty of cafes and restaurants along the way. You'll reach Scarborough Beach, which has protected swimming zones, a beach playground and picnic areas. From there, the Scarborough-Trigg Heritage Walk Trail includes historic sites, native plants, wildlife and spectacular views. It's made up of three loops - Scarborough Coastal Loop, Trigg Coastal Loop and Trigg Bushland Reserve Loop - totalling about seven kilometres. Make a day of it and watch the sun set into the ocean. helloperth.com.au



MELBOURNE

There are city highlights tours and then there's the Yarra City Loop, a paved 8.9-kilometre walking and cycling trail that loops around the Yarra River and is suitable for most ages and fitness levels. It's a beauty, showing off postcard views of the city skyline and providing a handy orientation for visitors. You'll pass by landmarks including the historic Sandridge Bridge, Enterprise Park, the Immigration Museum, the MCG and the National Gallery of Victoria. Start the loop at Federation Square, vibrant at any time of the day. If you have time to spare, browse the shops or enjoy a drink at one of the cafes before setting off. In the Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria, take time to stop and smell the roses (there are countless rose varieties there) as you explore the Gardens' 38 hectares. visitmelbourne.com

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THE Senior

Four wheels v two feet

MAL CHENU



FOUR WHEELS

Unless you have unlimited time (which none of us do) and are unaffected by arthritic knees (which is fewer and fewer of us), driving beats hiking when it comes to travel. Show me a happy hiker and I'll show you a crazy person. Why do you think the "Val-deri, Val-dera" chorus in *The Happy Wanderer* song ends with maniacal laughter?

Wanderers - happy or maniacal - like to say they are stop-and-smell-the-roses types. But while they're sniffing around the one, single location, they're missing out on the next beach, waterfall, lake, village, tavern, patisserie, museum, castle, cathedral or cave with ancient rock art, because these things are too far from the roses to reach by shanks's pony.

"Hey, there's a stunning lookout not too far from here. Shall we drive up and see it before we have lunch at that cute trattoria, or do you want to hike there, arrive at sundown, make camp and open a tin of baked beans to go with our stale focaccia?"

And even if you're hiking between hotels, it's still much nicer to enjoy a cocktail and a leisurely dinner than to arrive after dark exhausted and sore, and crash into bed after dragging your sorry butt (and knapsack) around all day, possibly in the wind and rain. (That is, after you've treated your blisters and sunburn, and removed the insects and leeches that have been grazing on your fleshy plains.) I mean, what do you want to get on Route 66 - kicks or ticks?

Life is a highway and the world is filled with amazing road trips. Google Maps has made navigating as good as the olden days when your partner used to tell you how to drive and what turn you missed.

In Australia, you can do the Cape to Cape Walk in Margaret River or the Twelve Apostles Signature Walk on the Great Ocean Road in about four days. If you drive instead, you'll have time to lounge at the beach, nose around the towns, enjoy a long lunch at a boutique winery (and pick up a few bottles for home) and still have three more days to see and do other cool stuff.

In the time it takes to hike a single mountain trail overseas, you could drive the Icefields Parkway through the Canadian Rockies, cruise the Grossglockner High Alpine Road in Austria, or car-climb 2000 metres from Marrakech up through the High Atlas Mountains and back down to Ouarzazate on Morocco's Atlas Mountain Road.

On four wheels, you can tackle the Wild Atlantic Way in Ireland, Milford Road in New Zealand, Chapman's Peak Drive near Cape Town in South Africa, Strada Statale 163 along the Amalfi Coast in Italy, Ruta 40 through the Andes in Argentina, and Route 1 in Iceland past the fjords, villages, hot springs, glaciers, lakes and waterfalls.

On two feet, not so much. Of anything. Except blisters.

What's your next adventure - a drive through dramatic landscapes or a meander with moments of self-reflection? Our experts help you decide.

AMY COOPER



TWO FEET

My kind of highway is the one winding skywards from Lukla through Namche Bazaar in Nepal's Khumbu region. The traffic's hectic. I've been stuck in a yak jam, delayed by a donkey train and overtaken by speeding Sherpas. And although the punishing ascents sometimes make you crave an engine and full set of gears, the greatest joy of this journey is its complete absence of motorised anything.

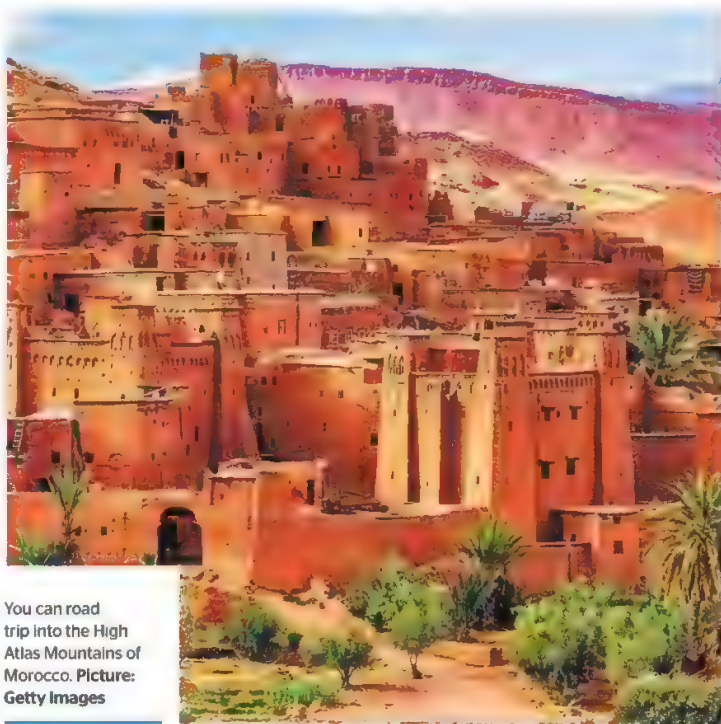
There's no vehicle access on the busy trail all the way to Everest Base Camp. Supplies travel between villages aboard animal and human, across hair-raising suspension bridges over towering gorges and along nail-biting narrow paths flanking steep drops. Under your own steam you drink in every magnificent detail, from rhododendron forests and Buddhist stupas to the distant snow-capped crowns of mountain royalty: Lhotse, Ama Dablam, Everest. The powerful energy demands your full attention. You can only feel it with your feet on the ground, not the accelerator.

There's a reason why pilgrims walk. It's elemental, grounding, a sacred communion with place. People have epiphanies when they tread a trail, not while they're overtaking a truck at 110kmh. As *The Pilgrimage* author Paulo Coelho said after his transformational trek on the Camino de Santiago: "Moving slowly enables us to learn faster." You'll smell the roses, the coffee, the street food, the ocean spray and the damp earth after rain. You'll see cracks in statues, reflections in ponds, bees in blossoms; follow a smell, a hunch, a melody. You can let your senses lead the way.

The Camino's network of pilgrim trails through Spain and its neighbours are drive-able, but why would you when you can move as Coelho did, "neither faster nor slower than your own soul", losing yourself in market towns, meadows, beech forests, medieval churches and wine country, bonding as you go with people from everywhere? Cars keep us apart, but walking forges friendships, whether they last for a moment or a mile. Another delight of the walking way - you can meditate or mingle.

Ditch the motor and you'll venture deeper than you could ever drive into cultures made for pausing, not passing: Japan's Kumano Kodo Pilgrimage Route, following in footsteps (not tyre tracks) of samurai and emperors on thousand-year-old trails, and noticing small wonders, like the bark on an ancient cedar worn smooth over centuries by the hands of passing pilgrims. The Via Francigena, from Orvieto to Rome via a feast of regional cuisines. Hawaiian island Kauai's emerald Jurassic Park dreamscape, 90 per cent inaccessible by road. These routes are made for walking.

If you travel to connect, look no further than the transport nature gave you. You'll be amazed how far your feet can take you. And if you do grow weary, don't worry - there's a yak for that.



You can road trip into the High Atlas Mountains of Morocco. Picture: Getty Images



Pilgrims on the Kumano Kodo trail in Japan. Picture: JNTO

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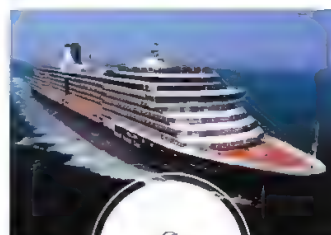
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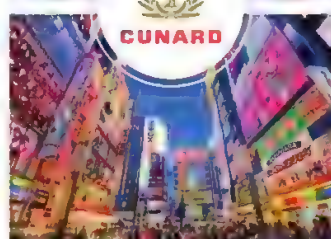
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Rachel Zegler, centre, and Tom Blyth in *The Hunger Games: The Ballad of Songbirds & Snakes*. Picture supplied

A treat for fans hungry for more

M 157 MINUTES

THE HUNGER GAMES: THE BALLAD OF SONGBIRDS & SNAKES

★★★★

Ron Cerabona

Prequels are funny things. Like sequels, they can be pure cash grabs, trying to wring more money out of a property, or, more charitably, provide fans with more of what they enjoy. Sometimes they fill in a story's background, providing new perspective and background on characters (like the scenes about Vito Corleone's rise to power in *The Godfather Part II*).

The Hunger Games: The Ballad of Songbirds & Snakes (let's just call it *S&S* for short) is based on Suzanne Collins' 2020 novel and is the first *Hunger Games* movie to come out since 2015. It will be interesting to see if it does as well as its predecessors. The film does provide a good entry point to newcomers. While there's quite a bit of violence, it's not too graphic.

For those who came in late, the films are set in Panem, a dystopian future country in

what used to be North America. Each year, the oppressive Capitol forces each of the 12 districts to send two people - a boy and girl, both aged between 12 and 18 - to fight to the death in a nationally televised event, the Hunger Games, that is part entertainment, part method of control.

Rather than going back to the origins of the event, *S&S* is set at the time of the 10th Hunger Games. Its focus is on the young Coriolanus "Coryo" Snow (Tom Blyth), the man who will eventually become the president of Panem (seen in the movies made earlier but set later).

The family of the 18-year-old Snow has fallen on hard times. He's very intelligent, having done well at the Academy, but to go on to university and save his family's apartment he needs money. An opportunity presents itself but it's not an easy one.

Snow is chosen to mentor one of the Tributes, who turns out to be Lucy Gray Baird (Rachel Zegler). She's a member of the Condee, a group of travelling musicians, which doesn't sound promising when it comes to fighting for survival.

Succeeding at this will mean winning a

coveted financial prize that will help him and his family, so he decides to throw himself into helping her, going above and beyond (ie breaking the rules) to do things like slip her food and water and find a place she can hide in the arena.

He realises it's not just about her winning, it's about presenting a good show, so he encourages her to use her singing talents. At first she's wary of him but as time goes on their relationship strengthens and becomes more personal.

Snow seems to have qualms about the Hunger Games, as does his friend Sejanus Plinth (Josh Andrés Rivera), who's also mentoring a Tribute. But anyone familiar with the older Snow will be looking for signs of the person he will become.

The film is reminiscent of the *Star Wars* prequels that charted Anakin Skywalker's journey from innocent child to promising young Jedi to evil Darth Vader. And there are echoes of *Game of Thrones* - the title, the name Snow, the political machinations and, not least, the casting of Peter Dinklage in a key role, as Dean of the Academy and the Games' intellectual author. But while it's

not wholly original, it's fun if you're a fan of dystopian stories (as many seem to be).

Peter Dinklage is quality casting and so is Viola Davis, who seems to relish her sinister role as Dr Volumnia Gaul, the head gamemaker. Blyth - who in the early part of the film bears a slight resemblance to David Bowie - is good as Snow, helping to make the character's varying motives and accompanying actions believable, and Zegler, who played Maria in the Steven Spielberg film of *West Side Story*, gets to show off her vocal and acting talents.

The worldbuilding is impressive and the production looks good with a lot of effort made to create the physical environments (question: why don't more people go off to live in what looks to be a lot of unspoiled wilderness?)

There are flaws: at more than two-and-a-half hours, the film is long and a bit slow in parts, labelling some points and skipping over others. It also feels a bit rushed in the latter stages, though the ending works.

For *Hunger Games* fans, it will be a must-see and newcomers will get something from it too.

Holiday horror and a dark tale of sex and class

BROMLEY: LIGHT AFTER DARK (M, 93 MINUTES):

This documentary delves into the world of David Bromley, an Australian artist who found that art appealed the voices in his head and helped him find beauty in the world. His journey is not complete without his wife Yuge and through this partnership the fragility of David's world and state of mind are revealed.

THE HUNGER GAMES: THE BALLAD OF SONGBIRDS AND SNAKES (M, 157 MINUTES):

This prequel is set 64 years before the events of the first *Hunger Games* film. During the year of the 10th Hunger Games, and long before he would become the

tyrannical President of Panem, 18-year-old Coriolanus Snow (Tom Blyth) is assigned to mentor Lucy Gray Baird (Rachel Zegler, pictured), the girl tribute from impoverished District 12.

SALTBURN (MA15+, 131 MINUTES):

In the new film from writer-director Emerald Fennell (*Promising Young Woman*), awkward lower-class Oxford student Oliver Quick (Barry Keoghan) is invited to the country estate of the charming and aristocratic Felix Catton (Jacob Elordi) for the summer. There, Oliver must adapt to an unfamiliar milieu as he meets Felix's eccentric family, including his mother Elspeth (Rosamund Pike), father Sir James (Richard E. Grant) and sister Venetia (Alison Oliver),



and enters a mysterious world of privilege and obsession.

THE TASTING (M, 92 MINUTES):

Kind-hearted, lonely Hortense (Isabelle Carré) meets Jacques (Bernard Campan), a

local cellarman. Eager to see him again, she attends a wine tasting in his shop - meeting his best friend who tries to seduce her, and his new apprentice who has a rare gift for tasting as well as an unfiltered honesty. As Hortense and Jacques grow closer and closer, their past begins to catch up to them. In French with English subtitles.

THANKSGIVING (R, 107 MINUTES):

Director and co-writer Eli Roth's new horror movie comes years after his phoney trailer of the same title appeared in *Grindhouse*. After a Black Friday riot ends in tragedy, a mysterious killer terrorises Plymouth, Massachusetts - the birthplace of Thanksgiving. Stars Patrick Dempsey, Addison Rae and Gina Gershon.

When breakup songs hurt so good

AUSTRALIAN MUSIC

LOVE & PAIN

Ben Gillies and Chris Joannou
with Alley Pascoe
Hachette \$44.99



This early portrait of Ben Gillies, Chris Joannou and Daniel Johns as Silverchair features on the cover of *Love & Pain*.

James Joyce

Somewhere in the video archives of Newcastle TV station NBN I'd like to think there's a bit of 30-year-old telethon footage of me telling the schoolboys who would go on to become Silverchair that one day soon their music will rock the world.

Except I'm not sure I did tell them that because, for the life of me, I can't recall much about the performance by the Innocent Criminals in the midnight-to-dawn talent quest on NBN's 1993 charity fundraiser.

I remember sitting next to *Romper Room* host Miss Kim and puppet sidekick Mr Do-Bee on the judging panel in the TV studio.

I remember the telethon producer, the late Rob Short, coaching me as a junior reporter from the local newspaper, the *Newcastle Herald*, to keep my comments positive or pithy or funny - or preferably all three - to give the viewers at home and all the local hopefuls helping to put on a show for a good cause, a reason to smile.

I remember a country-singing bloke who looked like country singer Alan Jackson and I think he appreciated me pointing out that at least there was a physical resemblance.

But for the life of me I can't recall the garage band of 14-year-old boys calling themselves the Innocent Criminals grinding out their rock song - or whether I said something kind like a good Mr Do-Bee should.

A few minutes of that March 1993 telethon performance appeared in the ABC's recent *Australian Story* show on Silverchair (the instalment was later removed from iView over a music licensing dispute). It shows Daniel Johns, Ben Gillies, Chris Joannou and then bandmate Tobin Finane in their best collared shirts seemingly chosen by their mums to look colourful on the telly.

"Let's rock'n roll," the blond-haired, blue-eyed lead singer draws as they launch into a song titled *Felt Like It*. The drummer smiles sweetly, un-rock-star-like, as the studio camera glides past. The bass player has his shirt tucked in. The singer, his teeth in braces and surfie fringe swept across his face, stares into the camera, his eyes darting nervously, as he howls out his lyrics.

Less than 18 months after that TV debut, the band as a trio wins a national song contest and releases the EP *Tomorrow as Silverchair*. The rest is Oz rock legend.

Everyone has a Silverchair story, drummer Ben Gillies observes in *Love & Pain*, his new memoir with bass player Chris Joannou. Everyone who's from Newcastle has at least three, I'd suggest.

In the wake of the intimate insights singer Daniel Johns offered in the 2021 podcast *Who Is Daniel Johns?* and last year's *Past, Present & Future* exhibition, *Love & Pain* is the inevitable - and, for fans, essential - counterpoint and companion from the perspectives of his former bandmates.

It's an energetic, anecdote-filled, hearts-on-sleeves account of the joys and hijinks, dramas and traumas, intensity and insanity of the trio's head-spinning rise from Sizzler cheese bread-guzzling mates making noise in an after-school garage band to globe-trotting teen rock gods making stadium concert

stages vibrate so much "it feels like we could levitate".

A conversational blend of pride, regrets and war stories, *Love & Pain* is a more prosaic reflection than the elusive, introspective Johns gave us in *Who Is Daniel Johns?* But it is no less heartfelt or fascinating.

The Silverchair parents emerge as the real heroes, from nurturing their musical talent ("Dad was right all along. Who knew?," Gillies says of his Led Zeppelin epiphany) to shepherding them around Newcastle and - then suddenly - the planet. It's hard to not weep a little for formative adolescent years warped by instant global fame and hard-landing homecomings to playground bullies and stalking paparazzi.

Later, after chasing the highs of those early years into booze, drugs, illness and mental health struggles, come the "ravines" that open up in the band with *Neon Ballroom* and eventually swallow them with the aborted making of "Album Number Six".

The post-band realities of marriage, parenthood and health battles have brought perspective. But the yearning for the deeply felt brotherly and creative bonds that helped transform their lives - plus the lost hope of a Silverchair swansong - is vivid and poignant.

"Silverchair has been over for a long time now but because of the way things ended it still feels unfinished," says Gillies.

Adds Joannou: "Silverchair broke my heart. I had so much love for the band that the pain of the end was immense."

Childhood friends growing apart is hardly unusual - even in a town like Newcastle, where Johns and Gillies still live. And band break-ups are a story as old as rock 'n' roll itself. And yet, with their recent truth-telling duel reminding us of the special kind of magic we were privileged to witness them conjure as schoolboys, there's something you can't help but wish for - and it's not even a Silverchair reunion. Boys, we just want you to be happy and be friends.

Kate Ceberano, Clementine Ford in spotlight

CONGRATULATIONS

The New England Writers' Centre has announced the results for the 2023 Thunderbolt Prize for Crime Writing, now in its 11th year. David Vernon (ACT) won the non-fiction prize for *Two Peas*. For the full list of winners: newc.org.au.

EVENTS

November 18: At noon at Harry Hartog Bookshop ANU will be the launch of the winning books of the 20/40 Prize for 2023 - Virginia Haussegger will be in conversation with Kim Kelly and Rebecca Burton. Registrations: events.humanitix.com.

November 18: At the Book Cow at 2.30pm will be a Book Party for *That Book About Egyptian Mythology* by David Conley. See:

bookcow.com.au.

November 19: At the Book Cow at 2pm will be a storytime, book signing and Q&A session with children's author Rory H. Mather. See: bookcow.com.au.

November 20: At 6pm in an ANU/*Canberra Times* meet the author event, Kate Ceberano will be in conversation with *The Canberra Times'* Karen Hardy on her memoir, *Unsung*. Manning Clarke Auditorium, Kambri Cultural Centre, ANU. Registrations at anu.edu.au/events.

November 22: At 6pm in an ANU/*Canberra Times* meet the author event, Clementine Ford will be in conversation on her new book, *I Don't*, with Amy Remeikis. Cinema, Kambri Cultural Centre, ANU. Registrations at anu.edu.au/events.

November 23: At Paperchain Manuka at 5pm will be a discussion with David McBride, author of *The Nature of Honour*. RSVP: info@paperchainbookstore.com.au or phone 6295 6723.

November 24: At the Book Cow at 6.30pm will be The Rainbow Holstein Book Club launch of *An Unexpected Party*. See: bookcow.com.au.

November 25: At Bittersweet Cafe, Kingston, at 3.30pm the Book Cow will host the launch of the anthology *Hot Diggety Dog! Tales from the Bark Side*. See: bookcow.com.au.

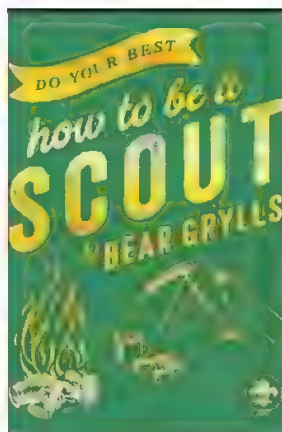
November 25: At Muse at 4pm will be the launch of *Kuracca*, an anthology of poems from Us Mob Writing. See: musecanberra.com.au.

November 26: A Brush with Poetry: Celebrate the final Brush with Poetry for 2023. Café on Queen, 15 Queen St, Binalong, 1.30pm to 2pm. Text 0401 289 178 for info. Donations appreciated. All welcome.

November 29: At Paperchain Manuka at 5pm will be a book signing and conversation with Linda Peek, author of *Malta: A Childhood Under Siege*. RSVP: info@paperchain-bookstore.com.au or phone 6295 6723.

November 29: At Muse at 6.30pm, Ozlit Book Club will discuss Jane Harrison's novel *The Visitors*. See: musecanberra.com.au.

November 30: At Paperchain Manuka at 5pm Paperchain will be an event with Shane Stark, author of *Might As Well Be Me*. RSVP: info@paperchainbookstore.com.au or phone 6295 6723.

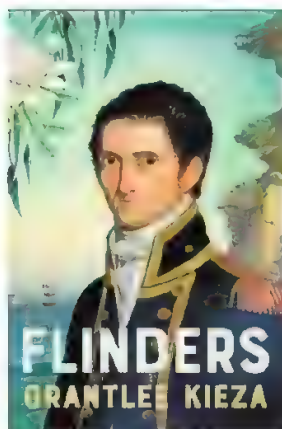


NON-FICTION

Do Your Best: How to be a Scout

Bear Grylls, Chris James. Hachette Australia. \$39.99.

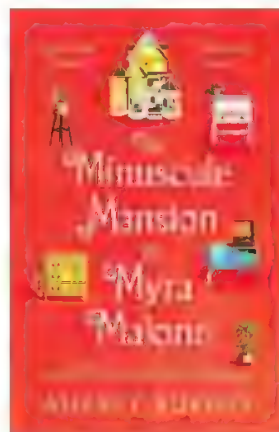
This book - co-written by *Man vs. Wild* presenter and World Scouting chief ambassador Bear Grylls - should appeal to a few different groups. Current Scouts, the nostalgic who want to see what's different and the same in Scouting, or people wanting to learn some facts (about birds, about mountaineers) and skills - such as how to tie knots, stay fit and healthy, give first-aid, survive in the wilderness, and leadership - might like to check it out.



Flinders

Grantlee Kieza. HarperCollins. \$45.

Matthew Flinders circumnavigated and mapped the famed Great Southern Land, and his naming of the vast continent would become its modern title: Australia. This is a story of a great love for the sea, for connection and of friendship - accompanied by his Aboriginal interpreter and guide, Kuringgai man Bungaree, and his cat, Trim. Flinders' meticulous charts gave us the first complete maps of Australia. But rushing home to England to his adored wife, Ann, Flinders was trapped and incarcerated off the coast of Africa as a prisoner of war, ultimately denied celebration of his great achievement.

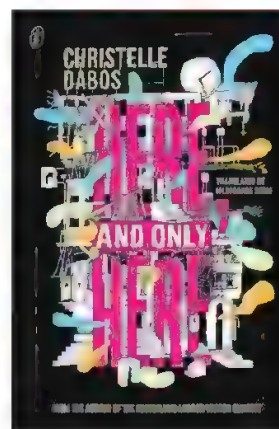


FICTION

The Minuscule Mansion of Myra Malone

Audrey Burges. Pan Macmillan. \$34.99.

From her attic in the Arizona mountains, recluse Myra Malone blogs about a miniature mansion - a dolls' house - which captivates thousands of readers worldwide. Myra herself is tethered to the Mansion by a strange magic she can't understand - rooms that appear and disappear overnight, music that plays in its corridors. Across the country, Alex Rakes, heir to a custom furniture business, encounters two Mansion fans trying to recreate a room and is shocked to realise the Mansion is his family's home. Searching for answers, Alex begins corresponding with Myra. Together, the two unwind the lonely paths of their twin worlds.



Here, and Only Here

Christelle Dablos (trans. Hildegard Serie). Text Publishing. \$22.99.

The School of Here is an unsettling and peculiar place full of codes and weird, unspoken rules that are passed down from year to year. This new term begins as any other would at Here: footprints on the ceiling, mysterious charts that rank the students into High or Low, the Ultra Secret Club, and trouble in store for the students who end up an "odd number". Even if the players change, the parts stay the same, all ruled over by a bully called the prince. For Iris, Madeleine, Pierre and Guy, it's an endless and cruel cycle that will reach breaking point this year.



The Abuse of Power: Confronting Injustice in Public Life

Theresa May. Hachette Australia. \$34.99.

Former British prime minister Theresa May exposes the abuse of power by public institutions and politicians in a series of first-hand accounts from her time in office. From the Hillsborough and Grenfell tragedies to the Daniel Morgan case and parliamentary scandals, the powerful repeatedly chose to use their power not in the interests of the powerless but to serve themselves or to protect the organisation to which they belonged. Drawing on examples from domestic and international affairs she was personally involved in, the former prime minister argues for a radical rethink in how we approach our politics and public life.



Days of Innocence and Wonder

Lucy Treloar. Pan Macmillan. \$34.99.

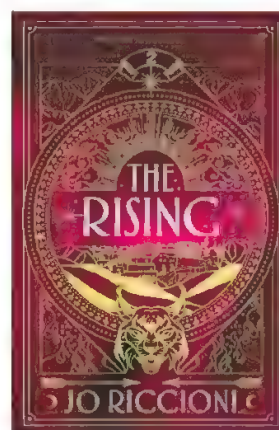
All her life, Till has lived in the shadow of the abduction of a childhood friend and her tormented wondering about whether she could have stopped it. Now 23, she senses danger approaching again and flees her past and the hovering presence of her fearful parents. In Wirowie, a town on its knees, she stops and slowly begins creating a new life and home. But there is something menacing here too. Till must decide whether she can finally face down, even pursue, the darkness - or whether she'll flee once more and never stop running.



MCU: The Reign of Marvel Studios

Joanna Robinson, Dave Gonzales, Gavin Edwards. Hachette Australia. \$34.99.

Not so long ago, Marvel Entertainment was a struggling toymaker. Today, Marvel Studios is a dominant player both in Hollywood and in global pop culture. This book draws on dozens of interviews with actors, producers, directors, and writers to chronicle the history of Marvel Studios and its sole, ongoing production, the Marvel Cinematic Universe. As they delve into the studio's key moments - including the contentious hiring of Robert Downey Jr. for Iron Man to the negotiations over Disney's acquisition of Marvel - the authors demonstrate that the genius of Marvel was its resurrection and modification of Hollywood's old studio system.



The Rising

Jo Riccioni. Pantera Press. \$29.99.

In the conclusion to the *Branded Season* duology, Nara and her twin sister, Osha, have arrived in the Shadow City of Reis. There, rumours abound of a Pure healer with the ability to cure the Branded. All eyes are on Osha and Nara must protect her sister; their powers are growing stronger, and it's vital they learn to wield them. Before long Nara is caught between her first love and the one who's stolen her heart but betrayed her trust. She is left uncertain who she truly is and what she can believe. Dark forces are taking control across the continent, and the Branded must rise to survive.

ABOUT TOWN



BY @snapsbysal



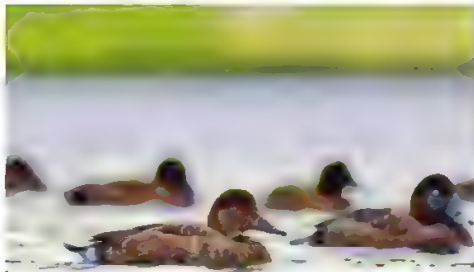
By @gallpix



By @samsamljk



By @courtneykazar



By @stevejameschivers



By @claireemilym

TRIVIA QUIZ

Compiled by Jean McLoughlin

- 1 Dorper, Merino and Corriedale are breeds of what animal?
- 2 Name both official languages of Canada.
- 3 Which band had a hit with the song *Hotel California*?
- 4 What colours appear on the flag of Austria?
- 5 And what is the capital of that nation?
- 6 What household device contains an air-cooled magnetron?
- 7 Name the hotel featured in *The Shining*.
- 8 A correctly poured pint of Guinness should have a head measuring how much?
- 9 Winona Ryder was caught and prosecuted for shoplifting from which store?
- 10 Which town does children's character Postman Pat deliver mail in?

TODAY'S SOLUTIONS

SUDOKU

3	9	2	7	8	1	5	4	6
7	8	5	6	4	3	2	9	1
6	1	4	9	5	2	8	3	7
4	7	8	2	3	5	1	6	9
2	5	3	1	6	9	4	7	8
1	6	9	8	7	4	3	2	5
5	2	6	3	9	8	7	1	4
8	3	7	4	1	6	9	5	2
9	4	1	5	2	7	6	8	3

CROSSMATH

2	+	3	×	8	=	26
x	+		+			
7	×	1	-	6	=	1
+		+		×		
4	+	9	+	5	=	18
=		=		=		
18		13		38		

TRIVIA QUIZ

1. Sheep, 2. English and French, 3. The Eagles
2. French, 3. The Eagles
3. French, 3. The Eagles
4. Red and white, 5. Vienna
5. Red and white, 5. Vienna
6. Microwave oven, 7. The Overlook Hotel, 8. 13mm
7. The Overlook Hotel, 8. 13mm
8. 13mm
9. Saks Fifth Avenue
10. Greenlane

ENGLISH CRYPTIC

SKIMP	TOPOVER
CNO	TROR
HECK	ET MOROUS
NEW	YEG
ANNOUNCE	ANG NA
P	CN
PRESS	RELLASE
S	AL
STRONG	MIND
C	U
REPORT	INVAS
O	A
CL	AT
STANDING	KNIGHT

QUICK CROSSWORD

EGOTISM	A	FIANCE
X	C	IFFEL
E	TOWN	R
COOL	IRON	ORE
R	B	JOU
A	E	VENING
BERET	N	R
L	EE	WAYS
YALTA	R	M
M	G	SIMMER
REJIGS	AURAS	L
R	LE	HAVRE
A	K	IDO
C	A	TU
PANDAS	A	IBISES

GEMINI CRYPTIC

OUT	ORDER	STAB
A	E	E
S	P	E
T	N	A
C	A	M
P	G	T
USE	L	S
T	R	N
A	S	S
S	E	P
T	R	N
O	P	H
P	R	C
T	N	O
O	L	G

5X5

GRAPE
LINEN
ASKED
DELVE
SNEER

TINY CROSS

BOWS
VAT
WIRY
DYE

WORDFIND

K	U	S	H	C	A	B	O	N
K	U	S	H	C	A	B	O	N
K	U	S	H	C	A	B	O	N
K	U	S	H	C	A	B	O	N
K	U	S	H	C	A	B	O	N
K	U	S	H	C	A	B	O	N
K	U	S	H	C	A	B	O	N
K	U	S	H	C	A	B	O	N
K	U	S	H	C	A	B	O	N
K	U	S	H	C	A	B	O	N

Secret message:
My island home is waiting for me

HOROSCOPES

with ALISON MORONEY

www.alisonmoroney.com.au
astrologer@alisonmoroney.com

SCORPIO

(OCT 23-NOV 21)

The beautiful, dreamy influences operating on November 18 will see many Scorpio natives luxuriating in perfect recreational surroundings or falling in love.

AQUARIUS

(JAN 20-FEB 18)

Financially fortunate trends influence Aquarian lives during Friday and Saturday, rewarding them for their endeavours: you've been a touch creative to earn this.

TAURUS

(APR 20-MAY 20)

A surge in aspirations during Saturday ensures Tauran individuals avail themselves of the favourable trends to accomplish something of personal importance.

LEO

(JUL 23-AUG 22)

The selfless facet of leonine personalities promotes compassion and a generous nature on November 18. Many of you will be making contributions to a worthy cause.

SAGITTARIUS

(NOV 22-DEC 21)

The harmonics of your home are resonating on a divine level on November 18, filling the atmosphere with music, dance and song: perhaps you're decorating or celebrating.

PISCES

(FEB 19-MAR 20)

The subtle connections that romantically link you with another individual are resonating with activity during Friday and Saturday. Special moments are shared together.

GEMINI

(MAY 21-JUN 20)

You'll be reaching for the stars as you integrate your ideals with some practical application on November 18. The first steps involve planning: you'll also need to toss ideas over.

VIRGO

(AUG 23-SEP 22)

Virgoans will delight in the subtle nuances that romance brings into their lives on Saturday: strong, gentle connections are forged in marriage as a result.

CAPRICORN

(DEC 22-JAN 19)

Your artistic talents are certainly being stimulated under the trends that are operating on Saturday. Someone seems to inspire you to develop your potential.

ARIES

(MAR 21-APR 19)

Friday and Saturday offer Arian natives the opportunity to develop artistic talents or will arouse romantic notions. Spiritual development is also indicated.

CANCER

(JUN 21-JUL 22)

Your dreamy mood seems to flavour all your thoughts during November 17, 18. You enjoy your experiences while travelling and adding to your store of knowledge.

LIBRA

(SEP 23-OCT 22)

Saturday is a wonderful time for finding that perfect job, made just for you. Many Librans will already be in it, with trends operating to stimulate perfect working conditions.

ZITS



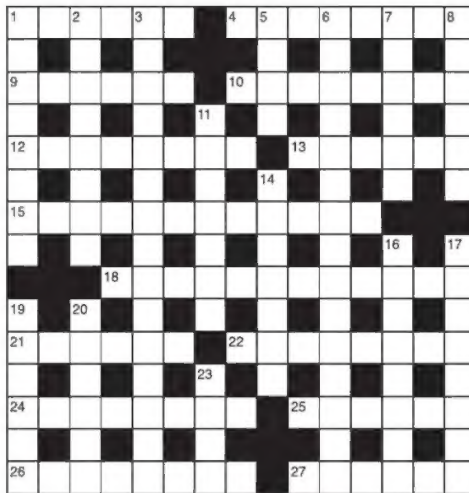
ENGLISH CRYPTIC CROSSWORD 30,588

ACROSS

- 1 Mean little devil in blue (6)
 4 Break in journey south to prove chaotic (8)
 9 Harass the man about deer making a comeback (6)
 10 Our Tom is terribly fearful (8)
 12 Reveal article shown before news has little weight (8)
 13 Pain again developed about noon (6)
 15 Statement showing how to undo seat belt? (5,7)
 18 Determined men did fancy following astronaut without weapon (6-6)
 21 Rumour regarding Romeo getting into marijuana (6)
 22 Entering, is naive about welcoming first of visitors (8)
 24 Healing dog, one stops a vet cracking up (8)
 25 Heavenly guess (6)
 26 Status isn't temporary (8)
 27 Man on board reported period of darkness (6)

DOWN

- 1 Second companion is asleep, keeping quiet: that's the drink (8)
 2 Angry since Ned changed (8)
 3 Type of fat parrot said to have room for more? (15)
 5 Decorate tapestry's top edge (4)
 6 Prophecy from pastor, incognito, going round (15)
 7 Its player takes a bow (6)



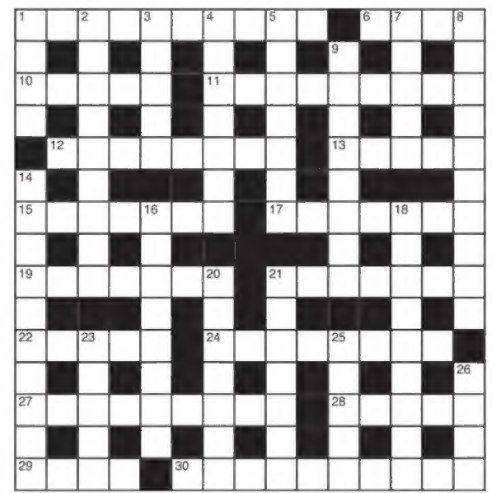
©Telegraph Media Group Limited 2021

- 8 Rogue artist's scrawl oddly ignored (6)
 11 City area he left over level of command (7)
 14 Chemical engineers undermined by spy (7)
 16 Having a high opinion of maid playing with band (8)
 17 Fan that's sticking (8)
 19 Reptile seen on American plant (6)
 20 Actor's role in South Africa or part of Greece (6)
 23 A very old name for flower (4)

GEMINI CRYPTIC CROSSWORD 10,445

ACROSS

- 1 Dismissed from brotherhood not working (3,2,5)
 6 An attempt to cause grievous bodily harm (4)
 10 Urge quiet with children around (5)
 11 Poor start led expert losing time to be confused (9)
 12 Drive a camping convertible (8)
 13 Incur changes in old Scandinavian characters (5)
 15 To reduce consumption is of no avail (7)
 17 Cut and is cross perhaps (7)
 19 Puts it on without being told? (7)
 21 Limits in rents perhaps (7)
 22 Baggage vehicles? (5)
 24 A popular calling (8)
 27 Absurd result of devaluation (9)
 28 Famous doctor seen from a new angle (5)
 29 Russian girl in gaol break (4)
 30 A pop star possibly pulsating with vitality (10)



©Auspex Media

DOWN

- 1 This oven has a ring outside for roasting (4)
 2 Youngsters eat greens for development (9)
 3 Surfeited from a meal in flight? (3,2)
 4 Rips are put in order by mending (7)
 5 Jobs for the boys (7)
 7 Unwelcome substance in canned beef? (5)
 8 Casts bread out; gets ham instead (3,7)
 9 He raises unnecessary fears of a mistral storm (8)
 14 Finish - a sentence? (3,1,4,2)

- 16 Engaged - that's the conclusion about me and a girl (8)
 18 Secret communications attachment for a rock climber (9)
 20 It's true I will appear in the screen version (7)
 21 An ivory cutter (7)
 23 Imitating the sound of a bullet? (5)
 25 Dark side of Sir Lancelot we hear (5)
 26 A slight cut (4)

5X5 Insert the missing letters to make 10 words - five reading across the grid and five reading down.

G	A		E
	I		E
A		K	D
	E		V
S		E	R

TINY CROSS 1119



ACROSS

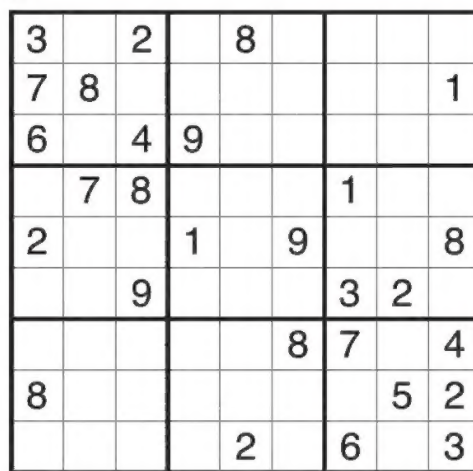
- 1 Ribbons (4)
 5 Big wine holder (3)
 6 Curly (4)
 7 Colouring (3)

DOWN

- 2 Roman poet (4)
 3 Cautious (4)
 4 Inflamed eyelid (4)

SUDOKU 126

You are given a 9x9 grid which has been divided up into nine 3x3 boxes. The aim of the game is very simple: to fill each row, column and 3x3 box with the numbers from 1 to 9 inclusive. Level of difficulty: Tough



9-LETTER 036



TODAY'S TARGET:

TODAY'S TARGET: GOOD: 8 VERY GOOD: 10

Reference: Macquarie Dictionary.

WORDFIND Theme: Islands

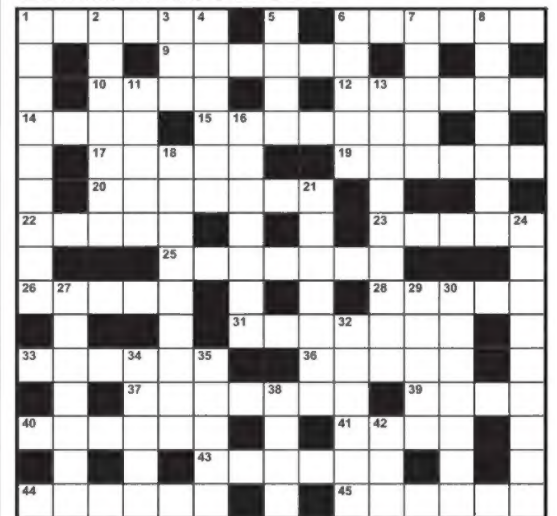
The leftover letters will spell out a secret message.



BIOKO	FUNEN	KING
BRITISH ISLES	GRAN CANARIA	KYUSHU
CRETE	HISPANIOLA	LOMBOK
EUBOEA	IRELAND	LUZON
FIJI	JAVA	MALAITA

MAUI
 MINDANAO
 NAURU
 OAHU
 PALAU
 PANAY
 RHODES
 SAMOA
 SHIKOKU
 SOIALO
 SULAWESI
 SUMATRA
 TAHITI
 TENERIFE
 TIMOR
 TONGA
 TORRES STRAIT
 UPOLU
 VITI LEVU

QUICK CROSSWORD 294



ACROSS

- 1 Self-interest
 6 Betrothed man
 9 French landmark
 10 Borough
 12 Aquatic animals
 14 Calm under stress
 15 Mined material (4,3)
 17 A jewel
 19 Wealth
 20 Latter part of the day
 22 Hat
 23 Typed in

DOWN

- 1 Detestably
 2 Tenth month
 3 Stitch
 4 Subordinate
 5 Curly hairdo
 6 Level of a building
 7 Former Mexican Indian
 8 Retinue

- 25 Lateral movements
 26 WWII conference with code-name 'Argonaut'
 28 Rips
 31 Boils
 33 Rearranges
 36 Distinctive airs
 37 French city (2,5)
 39 Storage for grain
 40 Japanese martial art
 41 Females in question
 43 Former Ellice Islands in the Pacific Ocean
 44 Chinese bears
 45 Wading birds
 11 Source of cooking oil
 13 Cheat
 16 Wreckers
 18 Tired (3-6)
 21 Syntax
 24 Confides
 27 Common name for the US
 29 Rub out
 30 Helps
 32 Breakfast cereal
 34 Homeric epic
 35 Attempts
 38 Long Live
 42 Focus

CROSSMATHS 126

Insert each number from 1 to 9 in the shaded squares to solve all the horizontal and vertical equations.

Multiplication and division are performed before addition and subtraction.

	+		x		=	26
x		+				
	x		-		=	1
+		+		x		
	+		+		=	18
=		=				
18	13					38



No. 021

Each row, column and 3x3 square should contain each of the above scrambled letters only once.

Can you figure out what 9-letter word will be formed in the first row or column:

G	O	D	U	P	R	E	W	N	
U	R	P	E	O	N	E	D	P	G
N	P	E	G	D	W	R	O	U	
P	D	R	E	G	N	O	U	W	
O	E	N	W	U	O	G	R	P	
W	U	G	P	R	O	N	E	D	
D	N	O	R	W	U	P	G	E	
E	W	P	D	O	G	U	N	R	
R	G	U	N	E	P	W	D	O	



Each of the clues corresponds to a five-letter word that contains the two red letters and three of the black letters below. The black letters may only be used once each.

SOLUTION

[illegible]

SATURDAY, November 18

ABC TV (CH 2)	SBS (CH 3)	SEVEN (CH 6)	NINE (CH 8)	TEN (CH 5)
6.00 Rage. 7.00 Weekend Breakfast. 9.00 Rage. 10.30 Rage AusMusic Month. 12.00 ABC News At Noon. 12.30 Midsomer Murders. 2.00 Annika. 2.50 The Durrells. 4.40 Landline. 5.15 Joanna Lumley's Spice Trail Adventure. 6.05 All Creatures Great And Small Christmas Special. 7.00 ABC News. 7.30 Shakespeare And Hathaway. Final. 8.15 Vera. 9.50 Annika. 10.35 Under The Vines. 11.25 QI. 11.55 Rage AusMusic Month. 1.00 Rage.	6.00 WorldWatch. 9.05 Lap Of Luxury: Escapes Down Under. 10.05 Ireland's Historic Gardens. 11.00 Australia With Julia Bradbury. 12.00 WorldWatch. 2.00 Cycling. National Road Series. Tour of Tasmania. Hlights. 2.30 Figure Skating. ISU Grand Prix. Cup of China. Hlights. 4.45 Greatest Hits Of The 70s. 5.35 Underground Army. 6.30 SBS News. 7.30 Britain's Most Luxurious Train Journeys. 8.25 Princess Anne: The Plot To Kidnap A Royal. 9.20 World's Most Scenic Railway Journeys. 10.15 Secrets Of A Celtic Grave. 11.45 Rex In Rome. 1.35 Hope. 3.40 Going Places. 4.40 Bamay. 5.00 WorldWatch.	6.00 Home Shopping. 7.00 Weekend Sunrise. 10.00 The Morning Show: Weekend. 12.00 Horse Racing. Caulfield Thousand and The Hunter Race Day. 5.00 Seven News At 5. 5.30 Border Security: Australia's Front Line. 6.00 Seven News. 7.00 Border Security: Australia's Front Line. 7.30 MOVIE: Independence Day. (1996) Will Smith, Bill Pullman. 10.30 MOVIE: xXx. (2002) Vin Diesel, Samuel L. Jackson, Asia Argento. 1.00 12 Monkeys. 2.00 Home Shopping. 4.00 Get Clever. 5.00 House Of Wellness.	6.00 Getaway. 6.30 A Current Affair. 7.00 Weekend Today. 10.00 Today Extra: Saturday. 12.00 Surfing Australia TV. 12.30 Great Australian Detour. 1.00 My Way. 1.30 Arctic Vets. 2.00 The 57th Annual Country Music Association Awards. 4.00 The Pet Rescuers. 4.30 The Garden Gurus. 5.00 News: First At Five. 5.30 Getaway. 6.00 Nine News Saturday. 7.00 A Current Affair. 7.30 The Garden Hustle. New. 8.30 MOVIE: Wonder Woman 1984. (2020) 11.30 MOVIE: Double Impact. (1991) 1.30 Surfing Australia TV. 2.00 The Incredible Journey Presents. 2.30 The Garden Gurus. 3.00 TV Shop: Home Shopping. 4.30 Global Shop. 5.00 TV Shop: Home Shopping. 5.30 Helping Hands.	6.00 Morning Programs. 7.30 My Market Kitchen. 8.00 iFish. 8.30 Farm To Fork. 9.00 Everyday Gourmet With Justine Schofield. 9.30 Taste Of Australia With Hayden Quinn. 10.00 Studio 10: Saturday. 12.00 Luxury Escapes. 12.30 The Yes Experiment. New. 1.00 Good Chef Bad Chef. 1.30 Healthy Homes. 2.00 Buy To Build. Final. 2.30 Charming China. New. 3.00 What's Up Down Under. 3.30 Luca's Key Ingredient. 4.00 My Market Kitchen. 4.30 Farm To Fork. 5.00 10 News First. 6.00 Bondi Rescue. 6.30 Jamie Cooks The Mediterranean. 7.30 The Dog House. 8.30 Ambulance. Return. 10.50 The Cheap Seats. 11.50 CSI: Vegas. 2.30 Home Shopping. 4.30 Authentic. 5.00 Hour Of Power.
ABC TV PLUS (CH 22)	SBS VICELAND (CH 31)	7TWO (CH 62)	9GEM (CH 81)	10 PEACH (CH 52)
6.00 Kids' Programs. 2.35 Thomas And Friends. 3.00 The Most Magnificent Thing. 3.30 Play School. 4.00 Andy's Wild Adventures. 4.35 Go Jetters. 5.05 Pffirates. 5.30 Kiya And The Kimoja Heroes. 5.55 Peter Rabbit. 6.30 Andy And The Band. 7.05 Karma's World. 7.30 Spicks And Specks. 8.00 QI. 8.30 Live At The Apollo. 9.15 House Line Is It Anyway? 9.40 Devolution: A Devo Theme. 10.40 Staged. 11.00 MythBusters. 11.50 Portlandia. 12.40 Fleabag. 1.05 Blunt Talk. 1.35 MOVIE: Gone Girl. (2014) 4.05 Close. 5.00 Mini Kids. 5.30 Wallykazam! 5.50 Kids' Programs.	6.00 WorldWatch. 10.00 Shortland Street. 12.00 Noisy. 12.55 Planet A. 1.25 8 Out Of 10 Cats. 2.45 WorldWatch. 3.45 PBS NewsHour. 4.45 Mastermind Australia. 5.45 American Runestone: A Viking Mystery. 7.35 Impossible Engineering. 8.30 Time Warp: The Greatest Cult Films: Comedy And Camp. 10.45 Dirty Rotten Cleaners. 11.40 Why Women Kill. 1.30 The X-Files. 3.20 NHK World English News. 5.00 Al Jazeera Newshour.	6.00 Shopping. 8.30 Travel Oz. 10.00 Escape To The Country. 11.00 Horses For Courses. 12.00 House Of Wellness. 1.00 Better Homes And Gardens. 2.00 Escape To The Country. 5.00 Horse Racing. Caulfield Thousand and The Hunter Race Day. 6.00 Heathrow. 6.30 The Yorkshire Vet In Autumn. 7.30 The Yorkshire Vet. 8.30 Escape To The Country. 11.30 The Great Outdoors: Greatest Escapes. 12.30 The Real Seachange. 1.00 Escape To The Country. 2.00 Discover With RAA Travel. 2.30 Creek To Coast. 3.00 Weekend. 3.30 Sydney Weekender. 4.00 Travel Oz. 5.30 Late Programs.	6.00 Thunderbirds. 6.30 Adventures In Rainbow Country. 7.00 Leading The Way. 7.30 Danger Man. 8.30 TV Shop. 9.00 Turning Point With David Jeremiah. 9.30 TV Shop. 10.00 Helping Hands. 10.30 My Favorite Martian. 11.00 MOVIE: The Small Voice. (1948) 12.45 MOVIE: Sailors Three. (1940) 2.30 MOVIE: The Captain's Paradise. (1953) 4.20 MOVIE: It's A Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World. (1963) 7.30 MOVIE: The Notebook. (2004) Rachel McAdams. 10.00 MOVIE: Sex And The City 2. (2010) 1.00 Rizzoli & Isles. 2.00 MOVIE: Dracula: Prince Of Darkness. (1966) 4.00 Late Programs.	6.00 The Late Show With Stephen Colbert. 7.00 Seinfeld. 8.30 Becker. 9.30 Neighbours. 11.30 Farm To Fork. 12.00 Frasier. 1.00 Dessert Masters. 2.20 The King Of Queens. 3.20 Becker. 4.20 Seinfeld. 5.50 The Big Bang Theory. 10.00 Friends. 12.00 Home Shopping. 1.30 The Late Show With Stephen Colbert. 2.30 South Park. 3.30 Workaholics. 4.30 Home Shopping.
ABC ME (CH 23)	SBS WORLD MOVIES (CH 32)	7MATE (CH 64)	9GO! (CH 82)	10 BOLD (CH 53)
6.00 Kids' Programs. 12.55 The Zoo. 1.10 Built To Survive. 1.35 The Dengeers. 2.05 Horrible Histories. 2.35 Operation Ouch! Hospital Takeover. 3.35 Odd Squad. 3.55 The Penguins Of Madagascar. 4.30 Spooky Files. 4.50 Miraculous: Tales Of Ladybug And Cat Noir. 5.15 100 Things To Do Before High School. 5.35 The Next Step. 6.00 Still So Awkward. 6.30 Operation Ouch! 7.00 MythBusters: "There's Your Problem!". 7.35 The Fairly OddParents. 7.55 Total DramaRama. 8.20 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. 8.55 School Of Rock. 9.20 Hank Zipzer. 11.15 Close.	6.00 Riding Alone For Thousands Of Miles. Cont. (2005, Japanese). 7.00 Amazonia. (2013, No dialogue) 8.30 Remember Me: The Mahalia Jackson Story. (2021) 10.15 White Squall. (1996) 12.35 After Love. (2020) 2.10 From Here To Eternity. (1953) 4.20 Dr Strangelove. (1964) 6.10 Fried Green Tomatoes. (1991) Kathy Bates, Jessica Tandy, Mary Stuart Masterson. 8.30 Falling. (2020) Viggo Mortensen, Lance Henriksen. 10.35 Other People. (2021, Polish) Jacek Bielec, Sonia Bohosiewicz. 12.30 The Exception. (2019, Danish) 2.45 Resistance. (2020) 5.00 Fried Green Tomatoes. (1991)	6.00 Morning Programs. 9.00 WSL Presents. 10.00 Jabba's Movies. 10.30 Pawn Stars. 11.00 The 4WD Adventure Show. 11.30 Life Off Road. 12.00 My Road To Adventure. 12.30 Timbersports. 1.00 The Bikesworld. 1.30 Dipper's Rigs. 2.00 Rides Down Under: Aussie Truckers. New. 3.00 Drag Racing. NDRC Nitro Funny Cars. Round 1. Highlights. 4.00 Secrets Of The Supercars. 5.00 Counting Cars. 5.30 Storage Wars. 6.00 Pawn Stars. 7.30 Football. AFL Women's. First semi-final. Adelaide vs Sydney. 9.45 MOVIE: The League Of Extraordinary Gentlemen. (2003) 12.00 Late Programs.	6.00 Kids' Programs. 1.40 MOVIE: Fixing Up Christmas. (2021) 3.25 MOVIE: The Christmas Ball. (2020) 5.10 Mr Mayor. 5.40 MOVIE: Alvin And The Chipmunks: The Road Chip. (2015) 7.30 MOVIE: The Hunger Games: Mockingjay - Part 1. (2014) 10.00 MOVIE: Reminiscence. (2021) 12.20 Motor Racing. SpeedSeries. Round 8. Supercheap Auto Bathurst International. Replay. 2.20 Motor Racing. FIA World Endurance Championship. 8 Hours of Bahrain. Highlights. 3.30 Beyblade Burst Surge. 4.00 Yu-Gi-Oh! Sevens. 4.30 Pokémon. 4.50 Monkie Kid. 5.10 Kids' Programs.	6.00 Home Shopping. 9.00 Snap Happy. 9.30 Diagnosis Murder. 11.30 On The Fly. 12.00 Escape Fishing With ET. 12.30 Australia By Design: Architecture. 1.00 Jake And The Fatman. 2.00 Taste Of Australia: BBQ. 2.30 Camper Deals. 3.00 JAG. 5.00 Reel Action. 5.30 JAG. 7.30 NCIS. 10.20 48 Hours. 11.20 FBI: International. 12.15 Blue Bloods. 1.10 Star Trek: Discovery. 2.05 48 Hours. 3.00 JAG. 5.00 Home Shopping.

SUNDAY, November 19

ABC TV (CH 2)	SBS (CH 3)	SEVEN (CH 6)	NINE (CH 8)	TEN (CH 5)
6.00 Rage. 7.00 Weekend Breakfast. 9.00 Insiders. 10.00 Offsiders. 10.30 The World This Week. 11.00 Compass. 11.30 Songs Of Praise. 12.00 ABC News At Noon. 12.30 Landline. 1.30 Gardening Australia. 2.30 Shakespeare And Hathaway. Final. 3.15 Grand Designs. 4.00 Bill Bailey's Wild West Australia. 5.00 Take 5 With Zan Rowe. 6.00 5.25 Nigella's Cook, Eat, Repeat. 6.30 Antiques Roadshow. 7.00 ABC News. 7.30 Joanna Lumley's Spice Trail Adventure. 8.20 Annika. 9.10 Shetland. 10.10 We Hunt Together. 10.55 Troppo. 11.50 All Creatures Great And Small Christmas Special. 12.45 Rage Vault. 2.05 Escape From The City. 5.00 Insiders.	6.00 WorldWatch. 9.00 Lap Of Luxury: Escapes Down Under. 10.00 Ireland's Historic Gardens. 11.00 Australia With Julia Bradbury. 12.00 WorldWatch. 1.00 Speedweek. 2.30 AusMoto Show. 3.00 Figure Skating. ISU Grand Prix. Cup of China. Highlights. 5.00 Going Places With Ernie Dingo. 5.30 Underground Army. 6.30 SBS World News. 7.30 Fortress Britain With Alice Roberts. 8.25 JFK: The Home Movie That Changed The World. 9.20 The Assassination Of JFK. 10.40 A Spy In The FBI. 12.20 24 Hours In Emergency. 2.10 24 Hours In Police Custody. 4.25 Going Places With Ernie Dingo. 5.00 WorldWatch.	6.00 Home Shopping. 7.00 Weekend Sunrise. 10.00 The Morning Show: Weekend. 12.00 House Of Wellness. 1.00 Discover With RAA Travel. 1.30 Cricket. Women's Big Bash League. Game 47. Melbourne Stars vs Brisbane Heat. 5.00 Seven News At 5. 5.30 Sydney Weekender. 6.00 Seven News. 7.00 The 1% Club. 8.00 Border Security: Australia's Front Line. 8.30 Homicide: With Ron Iddles: Gina Rossato. 9.35 Air Crash Investigations. 10.35 Manhunt: The Raoul Moat Story. 11.40 Autopsy USA. 1.00 Home Shopping. 5.00 Seven Early News. 5.30 Sunrise.	6.00 Fishing Australia. 6.30 A Current Affair. 7.00 Weekend Today. 10.00 Bondi Vet. 11.00 Cross Court. 11.30 Great Barrier Reef: A Living Treasure. 12.30 Fishing Australia. 1.00 Drive TV. 1.30 The Garden Hustle. 2.30 For The Love Of Pets. 3.30 Maritime Masters: Expedition Antarctica. 4.30 Customs. 5.00 News: First At Five. 5.30 RBT. 6.00 Nine News Sunday. 7.00 ICC World Cup: Pre-Game. 7.30 Cricket. ICC World Cup. Final. First Innings. 11.00 ICC World Cup: Innings Break. 11.30 Cricket. ICC World Cup. Final. Second Innings. 3.30 TV Shop. 4.00 Believer's Voice Of Victory. 4.30 Fishing Australia. 5.00 Late Programs.	6.00 Mass For You At Home. 6.30 Key Of David. Return. 7.00 Leading The Way. 7.30 Tomorrow's World. 8.00 Everyday Gourmet With Justine Schofield. 8.30 Freshly Picked With Simon Toohy. 9.00 Second Chance Champions. 10.00 Studio 10: Sunday. 12.00 To Be Advised. 1.10 My Market Kitchen. 1.30 Everyday Gourmet With Justine Schofield. 2.00 Food Trail: South Africa. 2.30 Australia By Design: Architecture. 3.00 Cook With Luke. 3.30 Destination Dessert. 4.00 Taste Of Australia With Hayden Quinn. 4.30 Luxury Escapes. Final. 5.00 10 News First. 6.30 The Sunday Project. 7.30 Dessert Masters. 8.40 FBI. 9.40 NCIS: Hawaii. 11.30 The Sunday Project. 12.30 Home Shopping. 4.30 CBS Mornings.
ABC TV PLUS (CH 22)	SBS VICELAND (CH 31)	7TWO (CH 62)	9GEM (CH 81)	10 PEACH (CH 52)
6.00 Bluey Fest! A countdown of the top 100 Bluey episodes, as voted by Aussie families. 7.30 Spicks And Specks. 8.00 QI. 8.30 Louis Theroux: The Most Hated Family In America. 9.30 You Can't Ask That: Postnatal Depression. 10.05 Doc Martin. 10.50 Civilisations: The Cult Of Progress. 11.50 Penn & Teller: Fool Us. 12.35 Adam Hills: The Last Leg. 1.20 Close. 5.10 Peg + Cat. 5.40 Luo Bao Bei.	6.00 WorldWatch. 9.30 Small Business Secrets. 10.05 Shortland Street. 12.05 Patriot Brains. 1.00 Trump's American Carnage. 2.00 Climate Crisis: Make The World Greta Again. 2.40 Jungletown. 3.40 WorldWatch. 4.10 Shortland Street. 5.10 Inside Sydney Airport. 6.10 Kars & Stars. 6.40 Mysteries From Above. 7.35 Abandoned Engineering. 8.30 The Last Overland: Singapore To London. 9.25 Living Next Door To Putin. 10.25 Idris Elba's Fight School. 11.35 Detective Chinatown. 1.15 Hamilton's Pharmacopeia. 2.05 United Shades Of America. 2.55 WorldWatch.	6.00 My Greek Odyssey. 7.00 Tomorrow's World. 7.30 Leading The Way. 8.00 David Jeremiah. 8.30 Home Shopping. 9.00 Escape To The Country. 10.00 House Of Wellness. 11.00 NBC Today. 12.00 Escape To The Country. 1.00 The Surgery Ship. 2.00 South Aussie With Cosi. 2.30 The Real Seachange. 3.00 The Bowls Show. 4.00 Escape To The Country. 5.00 Heathrow. 5.30 I Escaped To The Country. 6.30 Escape To The Country. 7.30 World's Most Scenic Railway Journeys. 8.30 Call The Midwife. 10.50 Miniseries: Bancroft. 11.50 Late Programs.	6.00 Skippy The Bush Kangaroo. 6.30 Amazing Facts Presents. 7.00 Leading The Way. 7.30 In Touch Ministries. 8.00 Beyond Today. 8.30 The Incredible Journey Presents. 9.00 Turning Point With Dr David Jeremiah. 9.30 TV Shop: Home Shopping. 10.00 Getaway. 10.30 My Favorite Martian. 11.00 The Avengers. 12.10 MOVIE: Derby Day. (1952) 2.00 MOVIE: The Passionate Stranger. (1957) 4.00 MOVIE: The Train. (1964) 6.30 M*A*S*H. 8.30 MOVIE: Outbreak. (1995) 11.00 Madam Secretary. 12.00 Rizzoli & Isles. 2.00 MOVIE: The Passionate Stranger. (1957) 4.00 Late Programs.	6.00 Friends. 10.30 To Be Advised. 11.40 Friends. 12.40 The Middle. 2.00 Basketball. NBL. Round 8. New Zealand Breakers v Illawarra Hawks. 4.00 Basketball. NBL. Round 8. Melbourne United v Sydney Kings. 6.00 The Big Bang Theory. 9.00 Two And A Half Men. 10.00 South Park. 11.00 Friends. 12.00 Home Shopping. 1.30 A Million Little Things. 2.30 The Bold And The Beautiful. 4.30 Home Shopping.
ABC ME (CH 23)	SBS WORLD MOVIES (CH 32)	7MATE (CH 64)	9GO! (CH 82)	10 BOLD (CH 53)
6.00 Kids' Programs. 12.05 Still So Awkward. 1.05 Secret Life Of Boys. 1.25 Born To Spy. 2.15 Horrible Histories. 2.45 Operation Ouch! Hospital Takeover. 3.10 Operation Ouch! 3.35 Odd Squad. 4.00 The Penguins Of Madagascar. 4.30 Spooky Files. 4.55 Miraculous: Tales Of Ladybug And Cat Noir. 5.15 100 Things To Do Before High School. 5.40 The Next Step. 6.00 Still So Awkward. 6.30 Operation Ouch! 7.00 MythBusters: "There's Your Problem!". 7.35 The Fairly OddParents. 8.20 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. 8.55 School Of Rock. 9.20 Hank Zipzer. 9.45 Rage. 11.15 Close.	6.00 Fried Green Tomatoes. Cont. (1991) 7.25 The Bridge On The River Kwai. (1957) 10.20 Selma. (2014) 12.45 Resistance. (2020) 2.55 Remember Me: The Mahalia Jackson Story. (2021) 4.40 Riding Alone For Thousands Of Miles. (2005, Japanese) Ken Takakura. 6.40 Widows' Peak. (1994) Mia Farrow, Joan Plowright. 8.30 Quo Vadis, Aida? (2020, Bosnian) Jasna Djuricic, Izudin Bajrovic. 10.25 The Ice Storm. (1997) Kevin Kline, Sigourney Weaver, Christina Ricci. 12.30 The Forgotten Battle. (2020, German) 2.50 Falling. (2020) 4.50 Remember Me: The Mahalia Jackson Story. (2021)	6.00 Hook Me Up! 7.00 Oz Fish TV. 7.30 Home Shopping. 10.00 Cricket. Women's Big Bash League. Game 46. Melbourne Renegades v Hobart Hurricanes. 1.30 Al McGlashan's Fish'n With Mates. 2.00 Creek To Coast. 2.30 AFL Women's Semi-Final Pre-Game. 3.00 Football. AFL Women's. Second semi-final. Melbourne v Geelong. 5.00 Storage Wars: Texas. 6.00 Border Security: International. 7.00 Border Security: Australia's Front Line. 8.00 Motorbike Cops. 8.30 MOVIE: Black Hawk Down. (2001) Josh Hartnett. 11.25 MOVIE: Escape From New York. (1981) 1.30 Late Programs.	6.00 Kids' Programs. 11.30 LEGO Friends: Girls On A Mission. 12.00 Yu-Gi-Oh! Sevens. 12.30 Power Players. 1.00 Teen Titans Go! 1.30 Surfing Australia TV. 2.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. 2.30 Rich House. Poor House. 3.30 At: Highway Patrol. 4.30 Abby's. 5.00 MOVIE: Batman Returns. (1992) 7.30 MOVIE: Assassin's Creed. (2016) Michael Fassbender, Marion Cotillard. 9.35 MOVIE: The Hitman's Bodyguard. (2017) Ryan Reynolds, Samuel L. Jackson, Gary Oldman. 12.00 Keeping Up With The Kardashians. 2.00 Rich House, Poor House. 3.00 Late Programs.	6.00 Home Shopping. 7.30 Key Of David. 8.00 Tough Tested. 9.00 All 4 Adventure. 10.00 Escape Fishing With ET. 11.00 JAG. 1.00 Luxury Escapes. 2.00 Second Chance Champions. 3.00 Pat Callinan's 4x4 Adventures. 4.00 Campdrafting. Gold Buckle World Championship. Replay. 4.30 What's Up Down Under. 5.00 iFish. 5.30 JAG. 7.30 NCIS. 12.00 Blue Bloods. 11.15 FBI: International. 12.15 Evil. 1.10 Star Trek: Discovery. 2.05 48 Hours. 4.00 JAG.



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